

ONE FOR DALGLISH

ON TOP OF THE WORLD

Ernie Els wins world match play title again
SPORT, PAGES 23-35

EAT

Fruits and flowers bloom in Paris Fashion Week
IAIN R WEBB, PAGE 3

25P

THE TIMES

No. 65,399

MONDAY OCTOBER 6 1995

Santer attacks 'grotesque' speech

Portillo digs in as Euro battle rages

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL PORTILLO chafed with the head of the European Commission and nearly a hundred fellow Conservative MPs yesterday in a new row over his controversial speech to the party conference last week.

Jacques Santer condemned the Defence Secretary's speech as grotesque and deplorable, while the Positive Europe Group prepared to protest to John Major and Malcolm Rifkind about Mr Portillo's "over the top" language. But Mr Portillo stoutly defended himself, declaring: "Je ne regrette rien."

He denied that he had reopened Tory splits over Europe with his speech which aligned the Tories with the SAS and ridiculed the idea of a single European army. He insisted that he was in tune with the Prime Minister on Europe, although he admitted he was "strongly frustrated" and "strongly disappointed" at the government's policy on the subject. "I think one is entitled to do that," he said.

But Mr Santer made clear in an interview with Jonathan Dimbleby for London Weekend Television that he did not like people poking fun at him. He said his opinion of Mr Portillo's speech was unrepentant on British soil, but when pressed, said he agreed with officials who had described it as grotesque and deplorable. "I must say that my Tory friends in the European Parliament and elsewhere were not very happy about this," he added.

European commissioners do not normally criticise the speeches of individual politicians in member countries, although Mr Santer and his predecessor Jacques Delors have toughly defended the Commission as an institution against attacks, mainly from the left.

Pro-European Conservatives were meanwhile planning to fight back against what they see as the Government's increasingly sceptical stance. The 90-strong Positive Europe Group will see Mr Rifkind tomorrow to protest about the speech in the hope that the Foreign Secretary can



Je ne regrette rien. I stripped away all the waffle and fudge and Eurospeak.

Michael Portillo yesterday

Leading article, page 19

ran Mr Portillo in. Members of the group have also called on Mr Major to prevent further outbursts, which they believe harm Britain's negotiating position.

Euro-enthusiasts have been particularly disturbed by Mr Major's apparent endorsement of the speech — he led the standing ovation last Tuesday — and will seek clarification that the Government's stance has not shifted. Last night Mr Major appeared to be distanced from the speech when, in a television interview, he said that while he had approved the broad policy outline, he had not seen the precise wording.

Hugh Dykes, the pro-European MP for Harrow East, said that he was appalled at Mr Portillo's antics and accused him of "trying to fan the worst kind of emotions and quite disgraceful attacks on Europe". Timothy Rathbone, MP for Lewes, said he favoured a block being put on Mr Portillo making such a speech again. "But I think it's unlikely he will make an

outburst again because he's learnt his lesson. It was pretty well generally condemned."

The former Foreign Secretary Lord Howe also gave Mr Portillo some blunt advice: "In his own interest and that of his party and of the nation, he must learn to speak with a great deal more maturity and a great deal better sense of judgement on the issue if he is to talk at all."

But Mr Portillo remained unrepentant yesterday. He insisted that he had only been voicing Government policy and pointed out that the Prime Minister had also made clear his opposition to a federal Europe in his own speech to the conference on Friday.

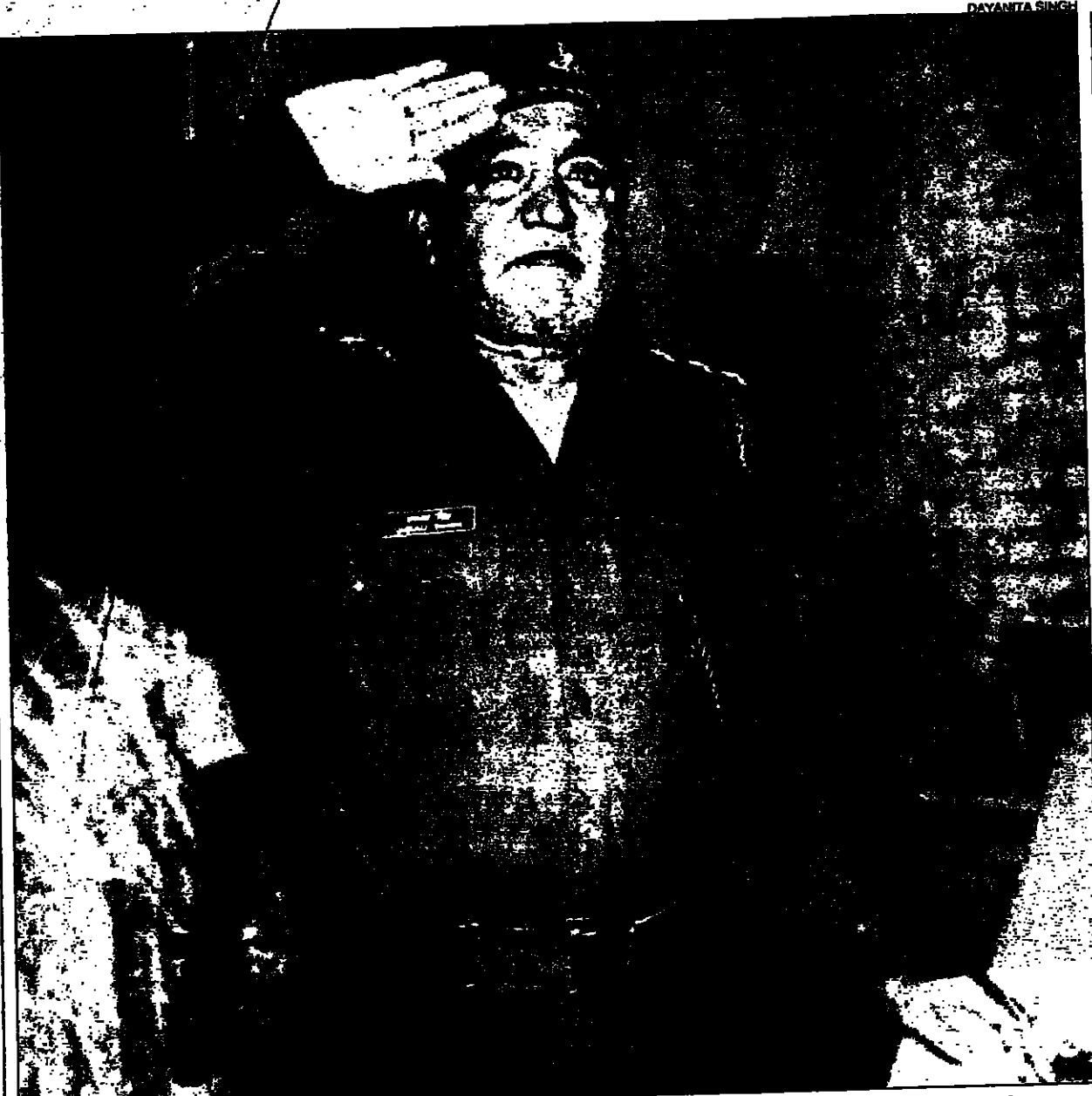
"I believe we were entirely singing from the same hymn sheet," he said on BBC Television's *On The Record* programme. But he agreed they had been using different volumes: "I was fortissimo."

Defending his choice of language, Mr Portillo added: "I stripped away all the waffle and fudge and any Eurospeak, and I said that any Conservative Government is not going to allow Britain to be drawn into a European superstate. The public hate humbug and fudge. They want to know what are the issues. They want to know what people think."

He had wanted to warn people of the dangers of a common defence policy which could ultimately lead to a decision on whether Britain should go to war being made by a majority vote in the Council of Ministers. While he favoured closer defence co-operation within the EU, he said that must stop short of the common defence policy hinted at in the Maastricht treaty.

Mr Santer, however, underlined his desire for a common foreign and security policy and said Britain could not stop other member states going ahead, although he indicated that the British Government could opt out if it wished. "You cannot veto, you cannot insist that other countries want to go ahead and some will," he said.

He also risked infuriating Euro-sceptics by predicting that a common currency would be introduced by January 1, 1999 "at the latest".



Umrao Singh saluting John Major from his home in the village of Palra, northern India, yesterday

The Times finds Major's VC hero

PALRA village makes the word remote seem inadequate: it is stuck at the end of a long canal that irrigates fields of meagre crops, and monsoon floods have cut off all but one entrance to the village, leaving a tractor track as the only way in. There are two Palras in Haryana, four hours' drive apart: we went to the wrong one first. The village where Havildar Umrao Singh, VC, lives is populated more by buffaloes, pigs, chickens and dogs than by people, although it does boast occasional electricity and a free flow of well water.

When *The Times* found Umrao Singh, 76, he stood to attention before the assembled men of his village with a slap of bare feet on dusty concrete and announced with a salute: "For John Major, Prime Minister of Britain."

He had just learned that Mr Major had headed his complaint during a meeting earlier this year in London and was increasing the VC pension of £100 a year to £1,300, a princely sum in rural India. It will make Umrao Singh one of the wealthiest men around. "I don't think the Prime Minister speaks Hindi but when I



Christopher Thomas, South Asia Correspondent, describes how he drove for ten hours over dirt roads in the backwaters of Haryana state to bring Umrao Singh, VC, the news that the British Prime Minister had made him famous — and rich

talked to him he just said yes to everything," he recalled.

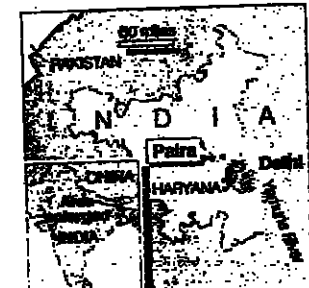
"All the Indian VCs are uneducated and we didn't know how to complain about our pension," he added. "It has not been increased since the [Second World] War. A VC cannot maintain proper dignity on £100 a year. I felt it was my duty to tell this to John Major. He has made me happy and proud." Umrao Singh, who will fly to London this month — his luggage and

VC have been dispatched — was astonished to learn that the Prime Minister mentioned him at the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool last week. "Really? Does that mean I am famous?"

Quaffing Indian rum from a tin cup and grinning broadly, he told the good news to his wife, Vimla, who was cooking parathas on a wood-fired mud tandoor. "Now we can live in style," he told her.

Umrao Singh asked for a message to be passed to Mr Major: "Why does the bank in India convert my pension at 34 rupees to the pound when I should get 50? Why are VCs in India being cheated? I want John Major to sort it out."

The former subahdar (sergeant) keeps his framed VC citation, signed "Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in India," on the wall in his small bedroom. He is comfortably off by local standards: he lives



Boxer's death brings new call for ban

By DES BURKINSHAW AND SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

THE death of the boxer James Murray in Glasgow has brought renewed calls for a ban on the sport and demands for a Royal Commission inquiry.

Murray, 25, died after developing a blood clot on the brain during his British bantam-weight bout against Drew Docherty on Friday night. The fight ended amid crowd rioting as the boxer was receiving medical attention in the ring.

Murray was pronounced dead at 8.50am yesterday while still on a life support system at Glasgow's Southern General Hospital. His family and manager had been warned there was little hope after his collapse in the 12th round of the bout at the Hospitality Inn. Last night, Kenneth Murray, the boxer's father, said the family was "devastated".

Garth Cruickshank, a consultant neurosurgeon, performed a two-hour operation to remove the clot from the boxer's brain on Friday night, but by late on Saturday all signs of neurological activity had ceased.

Murray was the eleventh boxer in the past decade to suffer serious brain damage and his death has angered those who have led the struggle to have the sport banned.

A spokesman for the British Medical Association said it was "yet another tragedy" which highlighted the dangers of boxing. "While the head remains a target there will continue to be tragedies like this and there will continue to be chronic brain damage to the majority of boxers," the spokesman said.

Continued on page 2, col 1

Dr Stafford, page 6
Leading article, page 19
Fatal blows for sport, page 23
Board probe riot, page 24

Asda declares medicine war

Asda, the UK's third largest retailer, heralded the start of a medicines price war by cutting 20 per cent off the prices of 80 branded vitamins, supplements and minerals. The move challenges the 25-year-old agreement that allows prices to be set by manufacturers. Page 44

Asda's move comes as the Government considers a new agreement that would allow prices to be set by manufacturers. Page 44

Labour law chief attacks judges' supremacy claim

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR'S Shadow Lord Chancellor Lord Irvine of Lairg, will tonight launch a strong attack on recent claims by senior judges, including Lord Woolf, that they are more powerful than Parliament.

Lord Irvine, 54, a close friend of Tony Blair, will condemn recent statements by House of Lords and High Court judges, asserting their powers to review government decisions, as "smacking of judicial supremacy". In the annual lecture to the Administrative Law Bar Association, he will say that such "corbett" claims are contrary to established law and inconsistent with a free democracy.

Lord Irvine, who outlined his concerns in an interview with *The Times*, makes his

remarks against a huge growth in judicial review — the power of the courts to scrutinise decisions of public authorities. He cited comments by Lord Woolf, who is chairing an inquiry into civil justice for the Lord Chancellor, and the High Court judges Mr Justice Laws and Mr Justice Sedley.

"These judges have advanced a new constitutional theory to challenge the doctrine of Parliamentary sovereignty," Lord Irvine said. "They say that Parliament and judges share sovereignty, and are co-equal in their respective spheres. Lord Woolf has said that suppose Parliament were to abolish judicial review, judges would have the power to invalidate laws passed by

Parliament which removed fundamental rights or fundamental underpinnings. I completely disagree."

Lord Irvine is expected to give warning that such comments will bolster the case against incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights into British law, which he and Labour strongly support. Critics of this reform say it would give powers to the judges which should belong to Parliament.

"I am a complete supporter of judicial review and think it has had enormous beneficial effect on the quality of decision making in Whitehall. But the courts must keep in their place, and the decision-makers must keep in their place."

Continued on page 2, col 5

Five British hospital workers die in crash

By DES BURKINSHAW

FIVE Britons working at a South African hospital were killed on their way to a weekend break in Swaziland when their car collided head-on with a lorry. The two doctors and three medical students died instantly.

All from the South East of England, they were working at the 230-bed Bethesda Hospital in Ubombo, KwaZulu-Natal, about 20 miles from the Swaziland border.

The doctors were Jacqueline Ford, 26, from Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, and Catherine Hulme, 24, who had newly qualified from Birmingham University. Dr Ford studied at Guy's Hospital, London, qualifying two years ago.

The students were Lucy Tringham, 23, Deborah

Townsend, 22, and David Whitaker, 23. Mr Whitaker studied at University College Hospital in London.

Ms Tringham and Ms Townsend were at Bristol University. A spokeswoman said they had just started their fifth and final year. "We are all devastated, especially as they were about to start their careers as doctors."

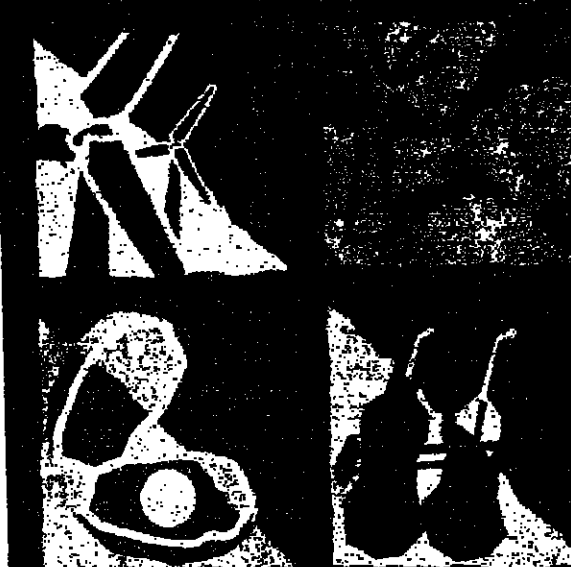
The Bethesda Hospital superintendent, Dr Jonathan Pons, said staff were "in shock".

The crash happened near the border town of Lavumisa on Friday evening but the remoteness of the accident scene meant police did not arrive until early on Saturday. Relatives of the dead were understood to be planning to fly to Africa.

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TV & RADIO 42, 43
WEATHER 22
CROSSWORDS 22, 44

LETTERS 19
OBITUARIES 21
WILLIAM REES-MOGG 18

ARTS 14, 15
CHESS & BRIDGE 33
COURT & SOCIAL 20

SPORT 23-35
MIND AND MATTER 16
LAW REPORT 35

THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

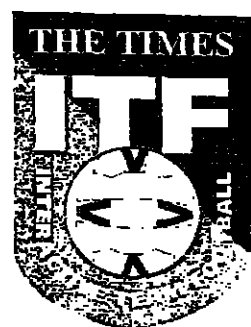
TUESDAY

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THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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Libby Purves,
Nigella Lawson,
Body and Mind
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reports from ParisPLUS:
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Alan Coren,
Brenda Maddox
on Media,
and Interface,
the weekly
guide to
computers

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Vernon Lee
Hugh Grant's
new filmPLUS:
John Bryant
on sport,
Books and
Travel News

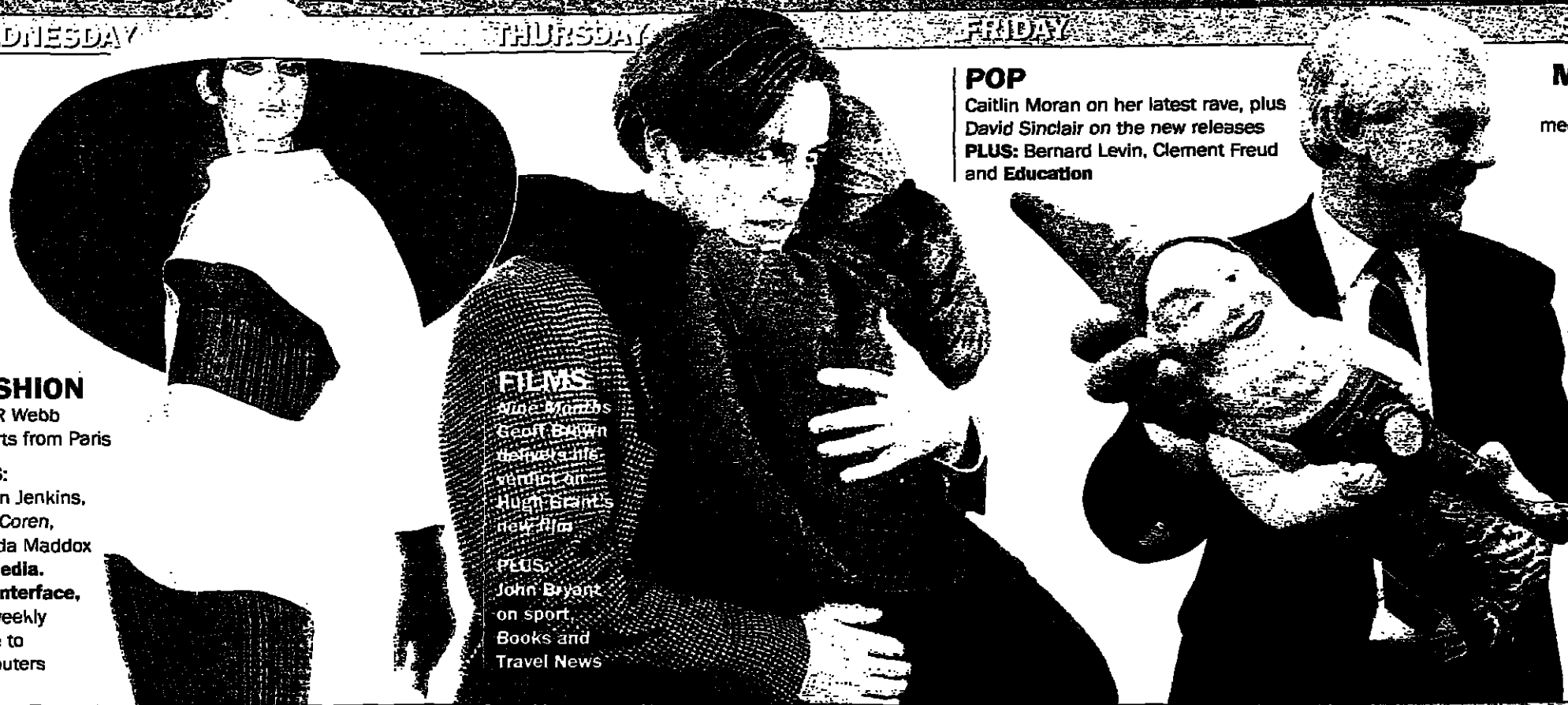
POP

Caitlin Moran on her latest rave, plus
David Sinclair on the new releases
PLUS: Bernard Levin, Clement Freud
and Education

MAGAZINE

Ginny Dougary
meets John Major's
big brother

PLUS:

Weekend:
travel, books,
property
and shopping
1015:
the magazine
for young
Times readers
Car 95:
motoring
news and
information
Vision:
the 7-day TV
and radio
guide

EVERY DAY THIS WEEK WITH A HOLIDAY REPORT FROM INDIA OR LATIN AMERICA

Prisons report
to prompt new
fortress jail

By STEWART TENDLER AND RICHARD FORD

MICHAEL HOWARD is to
unveil plans to build a new
type of maximum-security
jail to hold all of Britain's
most dangerous prisoners.The Home Secretary's an-
nouncement will follow a
highly critical report into the
escape of three inmates from
Parkhurst prison and into
jail security in England and
Wales. The provision of an
"Alcatraz-style" fortress jail
is one of the key recommen-
dations in the report by Sir
John Larmont, due to be
published within the next
two days.Sir John, a former Quarter
Master General of the Army,
is critical of the policy of
holding high-risk criminals
at six jails around the coun-
try. The new "supermax"
jail, modelled on some
American prisons, would
hold up to 300 high-risk
inmates from Parkhurst,
Whitemoor, Full Sutton,
Long Lartin, Frankland and
Wakefield prisons.Mr Howard has been
seeking private finance to
build the jail amid concern
in Whitehall at the cost of
implementing many of Sir
John's recommendations for
improving security.The report is the second
in a maximum-
security jail and the Prison
Service in a year. In Decem-
ber a report into the attempt-ed escape by IRA men from
Whitemoor in Cambridgeshire
concluded that it was a
"disaster waiting to
happen".It may renew pressure on
Derek Lewis, Director-Gen-
eral of the service, to quit the
£125,000-a-year post he has
held for almost three years.
Last night Whitehall sources
suggested he would survive,
though much will depend on
parliamentary reaction to
Mr Howard's statement.Sir John says of the escape
of two killers and an arsonist
from Parkhurst in January:
"The numerous failures indi-
cate there were many hands
on the tiller on this voyage to
disaster. This is not due to
one person's folly because
many of the ingredients can
be traced along the lines of
communication to the prison
service headquarters." The
report backs John Marriott,
the then governor of
Parkhurst, who said he had
warned headquarters of the
possibility of an escape.Sir John calls for prison
service headquarters in cen-
tral London to be stream-
lined, criticises sloppy
administration and suggests
the appointment of a trouble-
shooter to keep Mr Lewis in
touch with the prison
system.

Letters, page 19

Chancellor devises Budget for Middle England

Lone-parent benefit
at risk as Clarke
curbs welfare billBy JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENTSWINGING welfare cuts
for lone parents, including a
requirement for single moth-
ers to seek work before being
entitled to benefit, have be-
come the key battleground in
the Chancellor's attempt to
curb public spending.Peter Lilley, the Social Se-
curity Secretary, is resisting
Treasury demands to cut the
£9 billion benefit bill for Brit-
ain's one million lone parents
on benefit, but has agreed to
restrictions for new claimants.
He is also opposing further
cuts to his £35 billion social
security budget despite Treas-
ury demands for cuts in the
£12 billion housing budget.None of the big Whitehall
departments has settled yet on
what is likely to be one of the
most difficult public spending
negotiations in recent years.
Gillian Shephard, the Educa-
tion Secretary, and Stephen
Dorrell, the Health Secretary,
are both fighting for extra
cash for their budgets.The Cabinet spending
committee, EDX, chaired by
Kenneth Clarke will meet
several times in the next two
weeks to try to match John
Major's pledges for extraresources for the police, pris-
ons and education with big
savings in other departments.
Treasury ministers and their
advisers will meet on Friday
at Dorneywood, Mr Clarke's
official residence, to thrash
out how tax cuts can also be
achieved to deliver a "Budget
for Middle England".Options being drawn up by
Treasury and social security
officials include abolishing
the £6.30 a week lone-parent
benefit for all single parents
and the £5.20 a week lone-parent premium for poorer
mothers on income support.
Ministers also propose with-
drawing benefit from single
mothers with children over
five, unless they show they are
actively seeking work.Mr Lilley favours restrict-
ing benefit to those who most
need it, but is wary of intro-
ducing legislation which
might not get through the
Commons while the Tories
have a majority of only seven.Ministerial sources point
out that to abolish benefits
which would take some time
to produce savings. But if they
are frozen or reduced, this can
be done more quickly through
regulation. One-parent ben-
efit costs the Government nearly
£300 million, while the
lone-parent premium costs
about £250 million a year.Treasury ministers are said
to be pushing Mr Lilley to
agree to changes immediately
for all claimants, as well as
long-term measures to abol-
ish lone-parent benefits,
which would not be imple-
mented until 1997. Mr Lilley
is sympathetic to moves requir-
ing single mothers actively to
seek work before they can
claim benefit, a policy is in
line with John Major's de-Lilley: agreed curbs for
new benefit claimantsclared aim for the unem-
ployed to "undertake a con-
tract for work".But the move is being
opposed by some ministers as
lone mothers would for the
first time appear on the unem-
ployment register, bumping
up the jobless figures. Mrs
Shephard is said to be de-
manding £800 million extra to
cover pledges on nursery edu-
cation and the assisted places
scheme, while Stephen Dorrell
is said to be seeking an
extra £300 million on health.Michael Portillo's defence
budget is also under threat
despite assurances from the
Prime Minister earlier this
year that it would be
protected.
Paddy Ashdown will
launch the Liberal Democ-
rats' autumn offensive
against education cuts today
by urging every Tory
backbench MP to vote against
next month's Budget if it fails
to back extra investment in
schools.Colin Powell 'is a
relative of Queen'General Colin Powell, a potential candidate for the US
presidency, is a distant cousin of both Queen Elizabeth and
the Princess of Wales. It was claimed today. Harold
Brooks-Baker, publishing director of *Burke's Peerage*,
said research showed General Powell, who comes from six
generations of Jamaicans, to be a direct descendant of the
Coot family, a line of Irish military baronets.While he was governor of Jamaica, General Sir Eyre
Coot (1762-1824) had a child by his black slave girl, Sally.
She was the general's great great grandmother, according
to *Burke's Peerage*. Through Sir Eyre, who was eventually
dismissed from the Army in 1815 for sexual
impropriety, General Powell is related to most of the great
ancient families of Britain, including the Royal Family,
and to many noble and royal families throughout Europe.

Security alert at tunnel

Police were on standby at the British end of the Channel
Tunnel yesterday as a result of information supplied by the
French security forces. A spokesman for Kent police said
that armed officers had been sent as a precautionary
measure to ensure the safety of passengers. He refused to
give further details of the operation but said that such a
move was "not an unusual occurrence". The heightened
state of security, at Cheriton near Folkestone, was likely to
continue today.

Media campaign award

Marjorie Wallace, chief executive of the mental health
charity SANE, has won a best use of media award from
Evian Health for her campaigning articles, "The Forgotten
Illness", published in *The Times*. The articles, about the
stigma of schizophrenia and other mental illnesses, led to
the formation of SANE, which is now approaching its tenth
year and receives 3,000 calls for help every week. It has also
raised £6 million for the Prince of Wales International
Centre for research into the causes of schizophrenia.

BBC transmitter sale

The Government will announce within the next few weeks
whether it will privatise the BBC's 1,400 transmitters.
Although the BBC has repeatedly stated its opposition to
privatisation, a draft internal memo has indicated that it is
already preparing its response to news that the sale will go
ahead. The move could raise £100 million for the Treasury
although the BBC may be allowed to retain a stake in the
transmitters. A full sell-off could affect 750 BBC staff and
lead to redundancies.

Ferry passenger found

A ferry passenger feared missing overboard was found 18
hours later at the bottom of a ventilation shaft. An air
search was launched on Saturday for Simon Ashby, 25, who
was on board a Calais-Dover ferry. He was found at about
midday yesterday with a severely injured hand when
engineers went to investigate a jammed fan in the sealed
ventilation shaft. Police do not know if he had been trapped
in the shaft since going missing. Mr Ashby, from
Canterbury, was in a stable condition in hospital yesterday.

Boxer's death renews demands for ban

Continued from page 1

Menzies Campbell, the
Liberal Democrat spokesman
on sport, called for a Royal
Commission inquiry into box-
ing. He said: "The tragic death
of this fine young man makes
it increasingly difficult to jus-
tify boxing, as even some senior
figures in the sport, like Frank
Warren, have begun to ac-
knowledge." Mr Warren, the
joint promoter of the event,
said: "It is very difficult to
justify it when you see terribleinjuries like those and the
damage it does to the
families."Sam Galbraith, a consul-
tant neurosurgeon and Lab-
our MP for Strathkelvin and
 Bearsden, called for an urgent
programme of research into
brain damage caused by pro-
fessional boxing. "The bottom
line is that the aim in profes-
sional boxing is to inflict brain
damage on your opponent.
Since that is the case, nobody
should be surprised when

tragedies of this nature occur."

But Barry McGuigan, the
former world featherweight
champion and the President of
the Professional Boxers' Asso-
ciation, replied to the criti-
cism. Mr McGuigan, whose
1982 bout against Young Ali
led to the Nigerian's death
after six months in a coma,
asked: "Why has there been a
spate of accidents recently in
boxing?" He blamed the dehy-
dration which occurs when
fighters struggle to make their

weights.

Friends of Murray's oppo-
nent, Drew Docherty, say he
may never fight again.
After the bout, a small
section of the 550 audience
threw bottles and chairs at
each other in some of the worst
crowd violence seen at a
British boxing event.Dr Stuttaford, page 6
Leading article, page 19
Fatal blows for sport, page 23
Board probe riot, page 24

Judges criticised

Continued from page 1

Lord Irvine argues that al-
though judges' powers have
increased under European
law, so that they can now
suspend or disapply all Acts of
Parliament where they conflict
with European law, that devel-
opment "has been sanc-
tioned by Parliament itself",
through enacting the Euro-
pean Communities Act 1972.Sir John Laws has asserted
that the doctrine of parliamen-
tary sovereignty has givenway to a dual sovereignty of
the Crown in Parliament and
the Crown in the courts "to
each of which the Crown's
ministers are answerable."Sir Stephen Sedley has ar-
gued "that sovereignty lies not
in Parliament, but in the
constitution, which consists of
a framework of principles...
which are fundamental."Lord Irvine said he also
favoured creating a judicial
commission to improve the
training of judges.AST. power
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THE TIMES MONDAY OCTOBER 16 1995

'I am entitled to stay until I retire'

Defiant clergyman draws parallels with murder plot

BY LIN JENKINS

A VICAR whose services are being boycotted because of his private life preached defiance to his dwindling congregation yesterday and later pledged that he would resist all attempts to remove him.

The Rev Royston Such, who has been asked to resign by the Bishops of Basingstoke and Southampton, said: "I am entitled to stay until I retire."

Mr Such, a father of five, angered many in the three villages to which he ministers by divorcing his wife and marrying his curate, the Rev Tana Riviere.

In his sermon yesterday to 23 parishioners at Ropley, near Winchester, Mr Such drew comparisons with a 19th-century predecessor who narrowly survived a plot to murder him. The *Annals of Old Ropley* record that the Rev Samuel Maddock was so unpopular that his parishioners plotted to kill him by overturning his carriage on a steep-sided village road.

Maddock survived because a flash of lightning exposed the plotters as they approached. Their plans revealed, they had a change of heart and begged forgiveness.



Such's services boycotted by half of parishioners

Yesterday Mr Such recalled the "deliberate campaign of organised persecution", adding that the book described the vicar as being treated with "wholehearted aversion and hatred".

He pointed out, however, that Maddock, who died at the age of 85, served 53 years at Ropley and, according to the book, "became the beloved of his parishioners".

No one has threatened

physical harm to Mr Such, yet the parallels with local history, re-enacted each year at Ropley Church of England School, are clear to all in the village. Since his marriage to Ms Riviere, rumblings of dissent about his autocratic style have grown, culminating in the boycott of services.

Only half the usual congregation attended yesterday. The choir stalls were silent. Barbara Longland, organist for 17 years and choirmaster, was among those who cited the marriage as the final straw for her departure with the rest of the choir.

Mr Such holds the freehold to the benefit of Bishops Sutton, Ropley and West Tisted, making his removal virtually impossible. The Church is so concerned at the archaic nature of freehold that it is to be debated at next month's General Synod.

"It means I am entitled to stay until I retire," Mr Such, a former solicitor, said. "Historically it protected vicars against the whim of groups of people or the lord of the manor. Here is full of would-be lords of the manor; it is that sort of community."

Members of the congregation at St Nicholas, Bishops Sutton, who did attend Holy Communion yesterday could read, beside the door the announcement of a parochial church council meeting next week to discuss the vicar's future. It gave the motion to be voted upon: "That notice be given to the Bishop of the intention to request an inquiry under Part 1 of the Incumbent (Vacation of Benefices) Measure, 1977 by reason of a serious breakdown of a pastoral relationship between the incumbent and the parishioners of this parish."

The two other parochial church councils are proposing similar motions asking the Bishop of Basingstoke to intervene. Mr Such and his new wife have no intention of leaving. Ms Riviere has already defied the bishops' order that she cease acting as a deacon. "There is a job to be done," she said.

Those who oppose Mr Such are reticent in public, but claim that more than half the regular congregation was boycotting services at the three churches. Mrs Longland said: "There is not a nice atmosphere in church. I felt that I was not able to contribute to worship as I should. I did not want to resign, but I felt it was the only action I could take."

However, Matthew and Liz Hoskins, who were among the congregation in Ropley yesterday, said: "We are happy to give the Reverend Such our support."

Mr Such said his failure to be invited to a birthday party at one of the finest houses in the village yesterday was indicative of the campaign against him. "Normally I would have been invited, but there is a social divide and some people obviously feel that if I went it would cause upset."



Height of fashion: Enrico Coveri's turban with fruit and flowers, left, and a giant synthetic wig by the Japanese designer Yohji Yamamoto

Paris makes the headlines with staggering creations

BY IAIN R WEBB

DESIGNERS at Paris Fashion Week were determined to supplant each other in the outrageous stakes yesterday with exotic hats and wildly flamboyant fabrics.

Christian Lacroix, couturier to the international smart set, led the way

with his adventurous mix of patterns and colours, including a lace bikini top and split skirt of layered lace and plicated silk. The French designer used Chinese silks, tweeds and psychedelic prints to which he added oversized straw hats, and gigantic jewelled chokers and bracelets. Close behind in the outrageous stakes were

an exotic green turban laden with fruits and flowers by the Italian Enrico Coveri and a gravity-defying giant green synthetic wig by the Japanese designer Yohji Yamamoto.

Although the designs will no doubt influence what will be worn next summer, they are not the kind of clothes everyone can afford. Lacroix is

a favourite with society ladies who parade his flamboyant styles at functions around the globe.

The unpopularity of France's nuclear tests in Tahiti has turned Le Carrousel du Louvre into a fortress but stiff security has not kept away the fashion fans and Paris is swarming with press and buyers.

Bishop sued by church for failing to appoint vicar

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

AN ANGLICAN parish church has begun High Court proceedings against the Bishop of Southwark, the Right Rev Roy Williamson, for refusing to appoint a vicar.

Churchwardens at St Luke's, in Kingston, south London, are seeking a judicial review of the bishop's decision to suspend their right to a new full-time vicar.

The parish, from the traditionalist wing of the Church, has been without a vicar for more than a year since the last incumbent, the Rev Brian Vickery, resigned and converted to Roman Catholicism, taking about 25 members of the congregation with him.

The remaining parishioners "believe that the bishop has been less than impartial in selecting their parish for a post reduction", according to statement from the parochial church council. Parishioners "suspect that it is connected with the difference in churchmanship between their parish and the bishop's diocese generally".

The Southwark diocese is known for its widespread liberalism, although Bishop Williamson is himself an evangelical. Gregory Fordham, a churchwarden and ecclesiastical lawyer, believes the bishop has exceeded his powers and that there may be

"irregularities" in his attempt to suspend the living.

St Luke's, a Victorian Gothic church which uses the traditional income and High Church history in keeping with its Anglo-Catholic tradition, believes it must resist a post-reduction of its membership. Mr Vickery left the church still has more than 100 on its electoral roll and about 70 attend each Sunday. Services have been taken by members of the traditionalist umbrella group Forward in Faith from the Southwark and London dioceses.

Mr Fordham said: "Although we have suffered some losses in terms of the congregation, we have by hard work brought numbers back up to what they were before. We have started up new youth organisations, we have a mother and baby toddler group. We think we could do much better if we have a full-time priest."

Their action is being supported financially by the Church Union, a traditionalist organisation, and a preliminary hearing has been scheduled for November 13.

The Bishop was not prepared to comment, but a statement issued by the diocese said that he was seeking legal advice.

Fort William sleeper cut to only one carriage

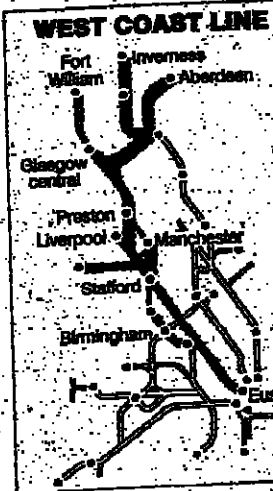
BY JONATHAN FRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE Highland campaigners who saved the London to Fort William sleeper are threatening further legal action to make British Rail provide extra carriages to meet the rise in demand for the service.

Such is the new-found popularity of a train once derided as the most heavily subsidised in Britain that its 42 beds are fully booked for weeks ahead. BR halved to two the carriages last month to cut costs after the Edinburgh Court of Session blocked its attempts to end the 94-year-old service.

The train, which once pulled four near-empty sleeper carriages into Fort William station each morning after its journey through the Highlands, now arrives packed with walkers, climbers and tourists. The number of carriages is to be reduced to just one at the end of next week for the winter season, cutting the capacity to about 20 beds a night.

"It is going to become virtually impossible to get reservations after that because it will just be booked solid," Christopher Monckton, a former Conservative Party policy adviser, who lives by Loch Rannoch, said. "British Rail is simply



WEST COAST LINE

Fort William is a key stop on the West Coast Line, which runs from Glasgow to London. The line is currently being cut to one carriage, which is a major concern for the Highland campaigners.

determined to try and destroy this service." Estate-owners fear that the service will be unable to cope at Christmas and Hogmanay when hundreds of Londoners traditionally use the sleeper to travel to Scotland for the Highland festive season.

Lord Rankellough, a Highland laird with an estate near Fort William, condemned the reduction in the number of carriages as "disgraceful" and said he would be raising the issue in Parliament when the Lords returns next week. "It seems extremely foolish when it is supposed to be making an income British

Rail just does not put on the number of carriages that are required," he said.

Under the terms of a rescue deal agreed between ScotRail and Roger Salmon, the rail franchise director, last month, the three north Scottish sleeper trains serving Inverness, Aberdeen and Fort William have been amalgamated into one 16-carriage "super-sleeper". The train is broken up at Edinburgh in the small hours of the morning, with six sleeper carriages going to Inverness, four to Aberdeen and two to Fort William. The rest of the train is made up of dining cars and baggage vans.

Mr Salmon, who is responsible for allocating the £1.7 billion rail subsidy, said the new arrangement would reduce government support from more than £200 to £75 per passenger journey.

British Rail said the sheer length of the train meant that no extra carriages could be laid on for the Fort William service, despite the demand, because platforms at Euston could take only 16 carriages.

Mr Monckton, who masterminded the legal campaign against the original decision to end the service, said British Rail had broken the terms of the court interdict by such a cut in the service.

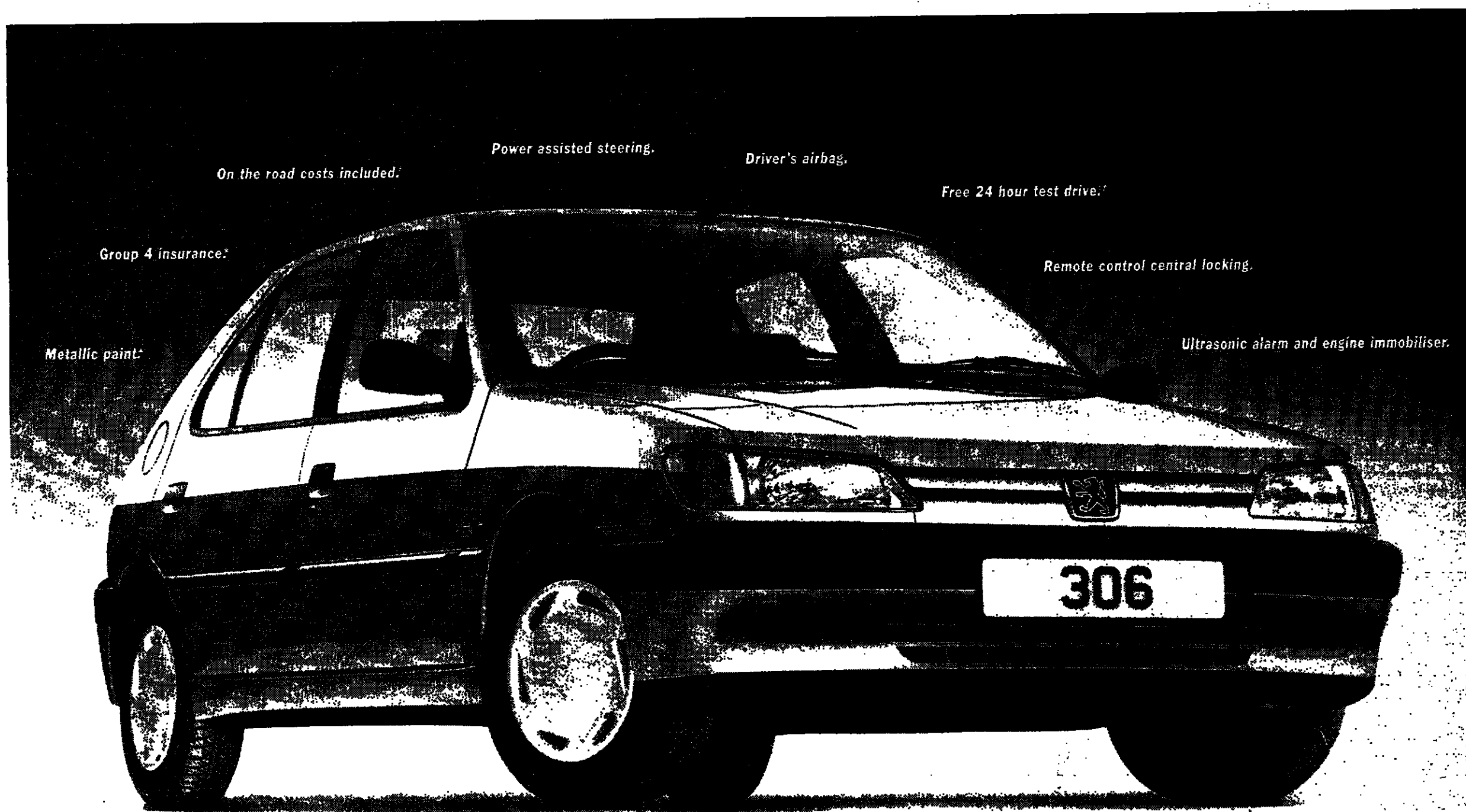


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Working women too busy to help Nineties lifestyle threatens future of guide movement

By Joe Johnson

THE girl guide movement is facing a crisis because fewer women are willing to act as group leaders. Working women are often too busy or too tired, after juggling their jobs and their families, to serve as Brown Owl or guide leader in their spare time.

Membership of the movement is shrinking, and a generation of women is growing up unable to distinguish between a reef knot, a sheepshank and a clove hitch.

"We are constantly on the lookout for new leaders," Jackie Bennett, spokeswoman for the Guide Association, said. "We find that the demand from girls far exceeds the number of leaders we have."

In 1993 there were about 814,000 members of the movement in Britain. Now there are 750,000 adults and children. Old girls include royalty, Jilly Cooper and Mary Whitehouse. Linda St Clair, once known as Miss Whiplash, thanks the Guides for teaching her how to tie knots.

The problem is partly caused by changing social patterns, Mrs Bennett said. "Many young women have to juggle family and their career. That leaves little time for voluntary activities." Preparing and attending meetings can take up several hours a week.

Christine Battersby, a part-

time legal executive and the association's county coordinator for Cambridge, said a lack of leaders was not a new problem, but it is getting worse in that so many ladies today are forced to go out to work, so their evenings are devoted to looking after their families and to doing the household chores they can't during the day.

"The vicar's wife who has time on her hands is no longer around," The Guide Association has begun hiring salaried project workers to recruit leaders across the country, which is an indication of the problem we have.

"The sort of women we want are career-minded, through choice or necessity, so they are becoming thinner on the ground. If I was working full-time, I would find it very difficult to do all the work I do in guiding."

Recruitment advertisements for new leaders have been rejected, for fear of attracting the wrong type of person. "Advertising, we find from practical experience, is not particularly beneficial," Mrs Bennett said. "The most effective way of recruiting is by personal referral and contacts. It is a youth organisation, it is a very responsible position, so you have to be very careful who you take."

One group facing imminent

closure is the 4th Littleport Brownies, based in Cambridge, which has 20 girls. The present Brown Owl wants to leave and no one has stepped forward to take her place.

Elaine Ellis, who works for an insurance company by day as well as running the neighbouring 2nd Littleport pack, said: "What tends to happen is we rely on the goodwill of one or two individuals who struggle from year to year. You kind of rock from one crisis to another."

"I've told everyone that I would like to leave next July, and I am finding it very difficult to find anyone interested in taking over. I started working as a helper when my daughter was seven, and she will be 18 in two weeks. I think I've done enough."



The Model Yacht Sailing Association held its national championship at Kensington Gardens in continuing warm weather yesterday

British resorts celebrate late bonus from Indian summer

THE Indian summer is expected to help towards a 20 per cent increase in receipts from tourism in British coastal resorts this year. Temperatures reaching the 70s Fahrenheit have tempted people to the seaside for day

trips and longer stays. The tourist industry, delighted with takings during the long summer, see the good early autumn weather as icing on the cake. "Coastal tourism brought in £2.2 billion in 1994 and this year should bring

in 10-15 per cent more and possibly as much as 20 per cent more in some areas," Peter Hampson, of the British Resorts Association, said at the weekend. In Bournemouth, yesterday, people were on the beach sunbathing.

The town's tourist chief, Ken Male, said that even an Australian surfer had stayed on because of the fine weather.

Forecast, page 22

Encouraging girls to be good citizens

THE guide movement was launched in 1910 by Lord Baden-Powell, with the aim of training girls to be good citizens through adventure and healthy activities. Famous old girls include Princess Margaret, the current President, and the Queen.

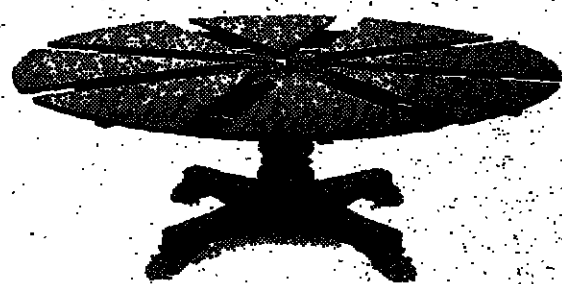
Brownies (aged 7-11), Guides (aged 11-16) and Rangers (aged 15-21) are encouraged to "develop their talents and interests. As with Scouts, a taste for camping and outdoor life are an essential part of the programme. The guide credo demands that they are a friend to all and a sister to every Guide."

The Guides have undergone modernisation. In 1993 they swapped their military-style uniforms for tracksuits and sweatshirts. Last year



they dropped "girl" from their title: it is now known as the Guide Association. Badges for computers and car maintenance have joined traditional ones such as for first aid. Their American counterparts have been even more adventurous, ditching skirts in favour of flowered leggings and oversized T-shirts.

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U-boats to be raised off Ulster for scrap

More than 100 U-boats are to be salvaged from the seas off Northern Ireland and sold for scrap. The Second World War submarines, which stalked British shipping in the North Atlantic, were sunk with their engines and full gear in waters at least 300ft deep about 30 miles off the north coast.

Up to 120 U-boats, from 250 to 1,000 tonnes, were sent to the bottom as part of Operation Deadlight a few months after the end of the war. The salvage contract was awarded by the Ministry of Defence.

Saunders plea

Ernest Saunders will resume efforts to clear his name today when the Court of Appeal reviews his conviction in the Guinness share fraud trial. The review was listed after the Government persuaded the European Court of Human Rights to postpone a hearing.

Fake cash seized

A counterfeit money ring was smashed by police, who raided a printing company as a print run of at least £2 million in fake £20 notes was beginning. Three men were arrested during the operation in Stratford, east London, and more arrests were expected.

Street killing

A postal worker died after a street attack in Leeds. Andrew Batten, 32, was found with head injuries near a taxi rank in the city centre. Police said he had been a "quiet and reserved" man, and there was no apparent motive for his murder.

Spielberg deal

Steven Spielberg's Oscar-winning film *Schindler's List* and *Jurassic Park* are to have their network television premiere on the BBC. The corporation has agreed a deal with MCA TV, distributor of Universal Pictures, and the films will be available for broadcast in 1997.

Fire kills boy

A two-year-old boy died in his bedroom when fire swept through a terraced house in Belvedere, southeast London. Stephen Lackless' mother and a neighbour rescued his two brothers, aged six and four, from downstairs but were unable to reach the bedrooms.

Princess stars

The Princess of Wales is to attend a film premiere in London in aid of sufferers of eating disorders. The showing of James Herbert's *Haunted* on October 20 is being organised by the actor Anthony Andrews, whose daughter suffered from anorexia nervosa.



Baroness Castle, left, with Constance Savery, one of Oxford's first women graduates, and Gillian Shephard

Oxford's old girls say women's role is getting better by degrees

By ALAN HAMILTON

WHEN Constance Savery walked on to the stage of the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, on October 14, 1920, she took one giant step for woman-kind.

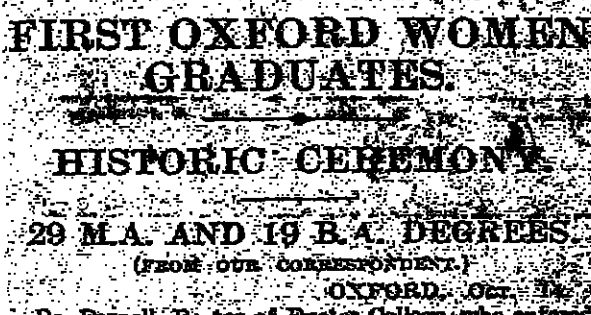
Miss Savery, from Stroud, Gloucestershire, who will be 98 this month, returned to Oxford on Saturday as a fêted guest at a celebration marking the 75th anniversary of the day, when the walls of a male bastion crumbled, and Oxford University awarded its first degrees to women.

In a world turned upside down by the Great War, Oxford was forced to confront the thorny question of equality, on which it had been a notable laggard. London was the first to allow a woman to graduate, in 1878, closely followed by the Scottish universities and the English provincials. Cambridge stubbornly held out against women graduates until 1948.

Miss Savery, whose BA in English was one of 56 degrees conferred on female students that heady day — Dorothy L. Sayers was among them — and who has enjoyed a lifetime career as a writer, recalled that some students wanted to hold a demonstration to celebrate their victory. "It was frowned upon. We wanted our graduation to happen quietly, as though it



Constance, right, in 1921 with her sister Christine, an undergraduate. The story in *The Times*, below



were the most natural thing in the world." There was agreement among 130 graduates, representing all the decades since their initial victory, who gathered at St Anne's College on Saturday for a debate and a buffet supper, that all was not yet perfect in the academic

with her birthday celebrations to attend.

From either side of the parliamentary divide Baroness Castle of Blackburn (St Hugh's, 1932) and Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary (St Hilda's, 1961) agreed that continuing discrimination against women had much to do with terminology. Lady Castle complained that, as she approached her 60th birthday, newspapers began to refer to her as "the ageing Mrs Castle", while a parliamentary colleague of roughly similar vintage was known as "the veteran Michael Foot".

Mrs Shephard said that if academic institutions did more to create well-educated women, then would have less excuse for categorising them as "shrill" or "matronly". She said: "There's too much washing of men's shirts going on in the rooms of women undergraduates; that's not what we fought for."

Ruth Deech (St Anne's, 1965), now principal of her old college, said that there had been progress even since her own relatively recent undergraduate era. "In my time a woman undergraduate was sent down for having a man in her room; the man was rusticated for two weeks."

Leading article and Letters, page 19

Boys ranked below mixed intake

Girls-only schools score best results regardless of class

By DAVID CHARLES
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

GIRLS' schools achieve better exam results than mixed classes whatever the social background of pupils, unpublished research by government inspectors discloses.

Boys' schools fare worse of all in inspectors' overall impressions. Even though their exam results might not be the lowest, inspectors said they had lower efficiency and a poorer quality of education than girls-only and mixed schools. The findings are the first of their kind and are based on a study of more than 5,000 school inspections over the past three years.

They are the strongest evidence yet that girls consistently outshine boys and flourish academically when educated separately. The report concludes: "When socio-economic circumstances are taken into consideration, girls' schools are judged to have higher standards, efficiency, ethos and quality of education."

Researchers from Ofsted, the school inspection agency, analysed the performance of schools according to the percentage of pupils eligible for free meals, the best indicator of pupils' backgrounds. In deprived areas, single-sex girls' schools achieved 21 per cent higher GCSE grades than boys' schools and 30 per cent higher than mixed schools; the study showed. In the most well-off areas, girls' schools' GCSE results were 5 per cent higher than boys' schools and 28 per cent higher than at mixed schools.

Overall, 36 per cent of pupils in girls' schools gained five



The man responsible for the early development of the National Curriculum believes it cannot be taught effectively in many of today's primary schools. Duncan Graham, who headed the National Curriculum Council from 1989-91, says it was designed for classes of about 25. More than a million primary children are now being taught in classes of more than 30 and some returned to school last month to find classes of over 40. On *World in Action* on 21V tonight Mr Graham says the optimum class size is 25-30 and it is heartbreaking to see numbers rising again.

grades A to C at GCSE, compared with 51 per cent in boys' schools and 38 per cent in mixed schools. Inspectors found that boys' schools on average existed in better-off areas.

The evidence seems to undermine a report in August for the Headmasters' Confer-

ence Co-Educational group, which argued that girls' schools topped exam tables for social and historical reasons.

Alan Smithers, Professor of Education at Manchester University and co-author of that report, had argued: "Just because the single-sex schools do better, it does not follow that this is due to their single-sexness. If there were a direct link between single-sex education and examination performance, it should show up consistently, yet there is no overall difference in the results of the co-educational and single-sex comprehensive schools in which most people are educated."

Prof Smithers suggested independent girls' schools achieved better exam results because they could select bright and well-motivated pupils. The Ofsted evidence shows state girls-only schools, many of which do not select on academic ability, consistently outperforming co-educational schools.

Ofsted is planning to commission further research on why girls perform better academically at school than boys from the earliest ages. Its study also showed girls were already doing better than boys at reading, writing and mathematics at the age of seven.

Over the past 30 years the number of single-sex state girls' schools has declined from about 1,500 to less than 200. In the independent sector the number of girls' schools has also declined. More than half of the 240 members of the Headmasters' Conference are now co-educational, reflecting the fashion for boys' schools to open their ranks to girls.

Blunkett attacks test slump

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

OFFICIAL figures showing a test slump in government schools in 1994-95, the pressure group says, shows that almost a third of pupils failed to pass the equivalent of an old O level in any subject.

Mr Blunkett said on BBC Radio 4 that the top 20 per cent of pupils were now registering 12 times better GCSE grades than the bottom 20 per cent. "That is a staggering difference, and it is not the case in other developed countries of Europe or South-East Asia."

Mr Blunkett said a transformation in the aspirations of low-achievers and their families was needed. This might require further changes in the national curriculum to ensure

again this summer. "The vast majority of children were not at four years' head start," he said. "The gap of low aspirations and low achievement was a 'pre-dominantly a white working-class male problem'."

Writing in the *British Journal of Curriculum and Assessment*, Charles Bell, the coordinator of Article 26, called for schools to be assessed on an average of all pupils' results. He said that almost half the 53 schools identified by the Chief Inspector as "beacons of excellence" for their league table improvements had rising numbers with no GCSE passes.

Letters, page 19

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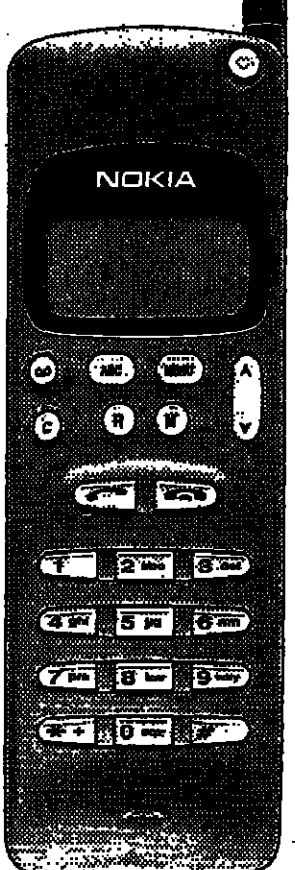
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High winds will disrupt route over the sea to Skye

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE Scottish Office has admitted that the Skye Bridge, to be officially opened today, will have restricted crossing because of high winds. It denies that the bridge will ever be closed to all vehicles.

A Meteorological Office report says that severe weather will require the bridge to have restricted access or be closed entirely for a total of 560 hours a year. The worst month is likely to be January when the island is hit by violent gales.

Many of Skye's 9,000 inhabitants have opposed the building of the £25 million bridge because of the high tolls. Car drivers will pay £5.20 in the summer and £4.30 in winter for the short crossing. Others had argued that a bridge open round the clock, throughout



the year, would be much more reliable than the Caledonian MacBrayne ferry. The Government has refused permission for the ferry to continue operating after the first commercial vehicle crosses the bridge at 2pm.

The Met Office report, which assessed winter wind speeds, was not included in the Government's environmental assessment. The Met Office report says the bridge will be closed to lorries, motor-cycles and caravans when the wind reaches 35mph, and will be closed to all vehicles when the wind reaches 45mph.

A spokesman for the Scottish Office said: "Between 1991 and 1994 the ferry has stopped on average 23 times a year. It is accepted that high-sided light vehicles may be restricted on the bridge and some traffic-control measures are available."

The bridge will be opened by Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary. Skye and Lochalsh District Council is boycotting the ceremony as is the local Liberal Democrat MP Charles Kennedy, who says the tolls are too high.

Magnus Linklater, page 17

Radiation level 'is never safe'

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THERE is no harmless level of radiation, a report published today by Britain's official radiation watchdog says. The findings will be little comfort to the French Government, whose radiation protection body commissioned the study from the National Radiological Protection Board.

The director of the board, Dr Roger Clarke, says he was astonished when he received a telephone call from the French Institut de Protection et de Sûreté Nucléaire asking his organisation to do the job, but he willingly took it on.

He will not speculate why the board was asked — "we took it as a great compliment," he says — but a report from a non-French organisation concluding that low-level radiation

was safe would be very useful to a French Government under attack over its nuclear tests in the Pacific.

There has long been argument over whether there is a "threshold" below which radiation can be deemed harmless. The report, prepared by a team including the board's assistant director Dr John Stather and head of the biomedical effects department, Dr Roger Cox, concludes that this is not the case.

"Low radiation doses — even extremely low doses — have an associated risk which increases with increase in dose," says Dr Stather. The risks may be considered unimportant when compared with other risks of living, "but they are not zero."

Fatal dangers of taking a blow to the head



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford

A BRAIN, whether that of the President of the Royal Society or of a Glasgow boxer, has the consistency of blancmange. In a healthy young man, the brain fits snugly into the skull, but even so, because it is jelly-like, it is liable to injury when subjected to a direct blow or from deceleration when the movement of the head is abruptly stopped.

In boxing the brain has to withstand both types of injury and, after a heavy punch, as it slops around in the skull, it is damaged at the point of impact and at the inside of the back of the skull opposite where the blow landed, the contre-coup injury.

If a boxer starves before a match to stay inside the weight limit, the subsequent

dehydration makes the brain fit in the skull less perfectly: the shrunken brain is then able to splash around in the bony box of the skull more easily, blood vessels are torn more readily by its movement, and the contre-coup effect is more damaging. The same vulnerability affects the brains of older people, which are shrunken by age.

After a head injury, the blood collects from any intracranial haemorrhage under the skull and usually forms a subdural haematoma (clot) or it gathers in the actual tissue of the brain to give rise to an intra-cerebral haematoma. It is reported that the surgeon who operated on James Murray explained that his survival would probably depend less on the amount of damage done by the increase in pres-

sure within the skull from the clot, which was soon evacuated, and more from the destruction of the brain's tissue from the original injury.

As well as being affected by any bleeding from torn blood vessels, the brain also suffers from oedema, swelling as the damaged cells become engorged with fluid. The oedema also causes a rise in intracranial pressure, and further damages those parts of the brain that control the body's basic functions.

Once the clot has been removed, time has to be allowed for the oedema to clear. In some cases, in which the breathing, and therefore the heart beat, is artificially maintained, and there is no electrical activity detectable

from the brain, the patient may be declared brain dead.

The widespread nature of damage to a brain when the skull is battered during boxing, which is on occasions mortal combat, can be appreciated when the outcome is compared with that of battlefield casualties. Lieutenant Robert Lawrence was severely wounded at Tumbledown in the Falklands War but survived to write a book of his experiences.

Although the battle had cost him a large portion of his cerebral hemispheres, those parts of his brain that controlled the simple essential functions of life survived.

Boxer dies, page 1
Leading article, page 19

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Items owned by Marshal Zhukov, left, and Churchill, seen at an armaments plant in 1941, will be auctioned

Churchill gun to be sold at Christie's

By JOHN SHAW

CHURCHILL'S Sten gun, part of an armory he kept at Chartwell during the war, is to be sold at Christie's for between £6,000 and 10,000.

He took great pride in the collection and enjoyed practising. The sub-machinegun, de-activated and on a display stand, will go under the hammer in South Kensington next month.

John Colville, secretary to

the Prime Minister at the time, watched him in action with a rifle at a range near the house in August 1940. He also wrote in his diary: "He also fired his revolver, still smoking his cigar, with commendable accuracy. Despite his age, size, and lack of practice he acquitted himself well. He always seems to visualise the possibility of having to defend himself against German troops."

The sale also contains a

seating plan and music programme for a three-power dinner in July 1945 at the Potsdam conference. The seating plan was signed by Churchill and 13 others including Truman, Stalin and Montgomery. It was one of Churchill's last signatures before he lost the general election to Atlee. Stalin began autograph-hunting for his menu card at the end of the meal on July 23, 1945. According to a later diary

entry by Lord Moran, Churchill's doctor and close friend: "Churchill growled about having to sign the menus. There was also a shortage of fountain pens, and the consequent borrowing and general movement seemed to break the ice of formality and generate a very friendly spirit."

The Potsdam items now being sold belonged to Marshal Zhukov, another guest and the most outstanding wartime Red Army leader.

'Most youngsters think marriage is for ever'

Third of children worry about parents separating

By JEREMY LAURANCE

A THIRD of children worry about their parents splitting up as the sharp rise in divorce rates threatens to destabilise even those families that remain intact, according to a survey today.

Up to four million children in traditional families may be afraid that their parents will separate. Family experts said that increasing anxiety about family relationships could have long-term effects on children, resulting in a loss of security and self-esteem.

Dr John Tripp, senior lecturer in child health at Exeter University and author of the Exeter study of family breakdown, said: "Security is very important to a child. There may be a general rise in anxiety as a result of the rise in divorce. I increasingly talk to teenagers who say they have no plans to get married. I never used to see that."

The survey of 500 youngsters aged from ten to 17 carried out by MORI for the

KEY FINDINGS

- A third of the 500 children polled agree that it is wrong to have a child outside marriage, but 45 per cent disagree.
- Six in ten disagree that parents should stay together if they are unhappy, but 27 per cent agree.
- Half agree that "I wouldn't have a child unless I was married", but over a quarter disagree. Over a third of children in single-parent families disagree.
- Four in ten agree that it should be made more difficult for people to get divorced, but nearly as many, 39 per cent, disagree.

Reader's Digest, shows that three quarters of children believe marriage should be for ever. However, when a marriage goes wrong, opinion as to how parents should act is divided.

Among children living with both parents, almost a third say the parents should stay together. But less than a fifth of children whose parents are separated believe unhappy parents should stay together and 70 per cent said they should separate.

Zelda West Meads, a marriage counsellor and family

expert, said: "Children are more aware than a decade ago of the possibility of divorce. It is happening to friends and relatives so they are aware it could happen to them and it is very scary. They may say it is better for unhappy parents to split but when it comes to it they may fear them separating more than they hate them arguing."

Three children in ten surveyed were living without a father in the house and 6 per cent were not living with their mother. Despite their fears, most young people still believe

in marriage. The MORI poll shows that more than eight in ten expect to wed and those from single-parent families were just as optimistic about their romantic futures as those from two-parent families.

On average, children feel that between 22 and 23 is the right time to get married, and between 25 and 26 the right time to start a family.

Ms West Meads said despite their experience of rising divorce, young people's hopes for the future remained high. "It is a very basic instinct to want someone to love and be loved by. Most people want stability for their children. Those who have been through divorce themselves know how painful it is and want to avoid inflicting it on their children."

Boys are more conservative than girls with more of them believing it wrong to have a child outside marriage — 38 per cent of boys against 29 per cent of girls. More boys also believe that divorce should be made more difficult (44 per cent against 35 per cent).

Smallest airline takes on might of British Airways

By HARVEY ELLIOTT
AIR CORRESPONDENT

A DISPUTE between Britain's largest airline, British Airways, and the smallest, which has only one aircraft, it goes to the Civil Aviation Authority for arbitration.

The man orchestrating the battle on behalf of British Mediterranean, which claims it is being unfairly treated by British Airways, is the former public affairs director for BA, David Burnside, who until he left amid allegations of "dirty tricks" two years ago was responsible for the public image of an airline with more than 50,000 employees. He is now non-executive director of British Mediterranean with a mere 60 staff.

He is accusing his former employers of trying to wreck British Mediterranean's plans to develop its new route between London and Beirut by insisting that any future services are given to BA.

British Mediterranean began flying to Beirut last year after a protracted dispute eventually led to the airline being granted five of the seven services a week negotiated for British airlines in talks between Britain and Lebanon.

New talks are expected to result in three more services a week being granted to British carriers. BA says it should have them all and has written to the CAA asking it to vary the licence on the route and prevent British Mediterranean from taking the flights.

Lord Hesket, the British Mediterranean chairman, last week called the move "an unwarranted attack" on his airline. "If allowed it would seriously jeopardise our plans for expansion in the Middle East region," he said. "British



Burnside: leading case against old employer

Mediterranean and its shareholders have invested considerable millions of pounds in starting Britain's newest long-haul airline. At a crucial time, when we have just applied to fly to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait from spring 1996 with additional aircraft, the British Airways move will have the effect of damaging our expansion programme."

British Airways, however, remains adamant that all it wants is an equal opportunity to compete and to provide the number of services demanded by its passengers. A spokesman said: "The market clearly wants more services by British Airways and we are asking the CAA to enable us to satisfy that demand by allowing us to match the frequency of the other UK carrier."

Its lawyers will argue that while Brit Med could be granted more flights while it had only one aircraft, it was now expanding and therefore should face competition on an equal basis.

The CAA is likely to hear the case by the end of the year.

Covent Garden jeers The Ring

By ANDREW YATES

BOOS and jeers broke out at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden on Saturday night when the curtain came down on the most controversial productions of *The Ring* in decades. The worst fears of traditionalists were confirmed in the performance of *Götterdämmerung*, the longest and, to some, the mightiest of the four operas in Wagner's *Ring* cycle.

In previous legs of this production, the audience had encountered busty Rhinemaidens gyrating in skin-tight latex suits. Their heroine, Brünnhilde, wandered across the stage in a track suit with skeleton motif.

In *Götterdämmerung*, Brünnhilde, the betrayed heroine, spent much of the time with a paper bag over her head. Siegfried, the hero, looked less than heroic as he set about his adventures in baggy trousers with braces, a turtleneck and a knapsack. Hagen, the villain who was portrayed as a heroin addict, injected himself on stage. He commanded a platoon of men in tin hats and pyjama tops.

Traditionalists were appalled: "Wagner would be spinning in his grave," said

one. "It is wonderful as long as you keep your eyes closed." Some opera-goers, who had paid between £7 and £140 for their seats, were delighted by the "innovative" production.

Huge cheers rang out when Bernard Haitink, Covent Garden's music director, appeared for the curtain call. When Richard Jones, the director, appeared on stage, the audience was divided but there was little doubt that boos outweighed cheers in one of the most raucous receptions Covent Garden has experienced.

Review, page 14

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Farrakhan outburst unleashes backlash on eve of black protest in Washington

Anti-Semitic gibes mar Million Man March

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AS TENS of thousands of black men began pouring into Washington for today's Million Man March, Louis Farrakhan, the event's organiser, abruptly cancelled two big television interviews after sparking a new furor over his anti-Semitic views.

Aides said the Nation of Islam leader was exhausted by preparations for what could prove one of the largest demonstrations Washington has seen. But it was also clear that the media's focus on Mr Farrakhan and his incendiary rhetoric was threatening the event's success.

In an interview released by Reuters Television over the weekend, Mr Farrakhan called Jews and other ethnic groups "bloodsuckers" who took money from black communities but gave nothing back. Jews had participated in the slave trade, and an unnamed Jew had sought his assassination.

In another interview with Germany's *Der Spiegel* magazine, Mr Farrakhan said that America was beginning to see blacks as the "enemy", and recalled how it had sought to bomb earlier enemies, the North Vietnamese and Libya's Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, into oblivion.

Jewish leaders furiously denounced Mr Farrakhan and demanded that black speakers at today's demonstration should renounce his "bigoted" message. Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, urged black leaders to boycott the event unless Mr Farrakhan apologised for his "hateful" remarks. The net effect of the controversy was to fuel the

unease of those who support the aim of the demonstration — which is for black men to affirm responsibility for themselves, their families and communities — but see Mr Farrakhan as a deeply flawed messenger.

Harold Ickes, the White House Deputy Chief of Staff, said Mr Farrakhan should set an example by accepting responsibility for his own "bigoted, hateful, anti-Semitic, sexist

views. The authorities were predicting chaos on the roads. All police leave in Washington has been cancelled. Organisers were providing 25 first aid stations, 250 doctors, several hundred nurses, 1,000 food stalls and 3,000 portable toilets.

Few expected a million men. That would be one in every nine black males in America, and several powerful black organisations, including the

1969. Other unanswered questions were whether the demonstration would improve or further damage American race relations, whether it would establish Mr Farrakhan as a mainstream leader of America's blacks, and whether it would mark the end of an era in which blacks have tended to see themselves as victims deserving special treatment. In favour of a new conservative philosophy of self-reliance, self-discipline and independence. "We're not coming to beg Washington," said Mr Farrakhan. "Our day of begging white folk to do for us what we could do with ourselves is over."

That message clearly has powerful resonance in black communities devastated by rates of crime, poverty and unemployment double or triple those in white America. Many prominent blacks planning to attend the demonstration emphasised that they were supporting the message, not the messenger. "We're marching for something bigger than Farrakhan," said Donald Payne, head of the Congressional Black Caucus.

But if the demonstration succeeds, Mr Farrakhan will inevitably become a force to be reckoned with. With the influence of the Rev Jesse Jackson fading, no other black leader could have put together such an event, and Mr Farrakhan intends to use it to launch a huge voter registration drive that he could translate into considerable political clout.

President Clinton and General Colin Powell will both make appeals for greater racial harmony today.

NEW WORDS OF LOUSY

He called Judaism a "gutter religion" and Jews "bloodsuckers". Hitler, he said, was a "great man", though "wickedly great".

He has asserted that whites are "devils" created by Yakub, a mad scientist, as a test for and curse on the superior black race.

In a 1993 book he wrote: "We must change homosexual behaviour and get rid of the circumstances that bring it about. We must change all behaviour that offends the standard of moral behaviour set by God."

Today's march was inspired by a vision of being carried away to a spaceship where he met former Nation of Islam leader, Elijah Muhammed. "I really don't care if you think I'm a nut," he said.

comments". On the eve of the rally, it was uncertain whether the numbers turning up for the march would in any way justify its Million Man billing. The preparations were certainly on a massive scale. Organisers reserved the Mall in Washington from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial, some 16 million square feet, and expected 11,000 buses from more than 300 cities. Amtrak was laying on extra

National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People and the National Baptist Convention, have boycotted the event because of Mr Farrakhan. But numbers were expected to exceed the 250,000 who heard Martin Luther King deliver his "I have a dream" speech in 1963, and could conceivably approach the record 600,000 who marched against the Vietnam War in



Louis Farrakhan: cancelled interviews after denouncing ethnic 'bloodsuckers'

MP attacks militants' London rally

BY RICHARD FORD

BERNIE GRANT, the Labour MP for Tottenham, yesterday warned black separatists against using a Nation of Islam rally on Broadwater Farm tonight to stir up trouble in the area.

Up to 1,000 black people are expected to attend the meeting on the estate in Tottenham, north London, where PC Keith Blacklock was hacked to death during riots in 1985. Mr Grant criticised the decision to hold the event on the estate, as did a spokesman for the Board of Deputies of British Jews who accused the organisers of attempting to exacerbate problems between black and white people.

Mr Grant, who will address the meeting, said: "If it was my rally, I would not have gone to Broadwater Farm." He said he had visited the estate last week with religious leaders who had spoken of the unity among the residents. "It [the

rally] could become a vehicle for people who wish to disrupt and divert the whole situation. The Nation of Islam is working among young unemployed black people who are almost an underclass at the moment. It is a very fertile ground for them to operate in."

The rally is aimed at recruiting more members to the organisation and coincides with a Million Man March in Washington. Mr Grant defended his decision to speak at the rally to show that there was an alternative to the Nation of Islam.

"I do not adopt the same position as the Nation of Islam. It is important that I engage them in a dialogue so that young people attending that meeting see there is an alternative," Mr Grant said on BBC Radio 4's *Sunday programme*.

He added: "If I don't go along, I am giving free rein to Nation of Islam in my constituency and not doing my job properly."

The militant organisation has been strongly condemned in the United States where its leader and leaders of Britain's Jewish community have urged people to have nothing to do with the group because of its racist and anti-Semitic character.

Mike Whine, a spokesman for the Board of Deputies of British Jews, accused the organisers of attempting to win cheap publicity by choosing Broadwater Farm as the venue of tonight's meeting.

He said: "It is a fairly cynical manoeuvre to have it there at the site of one of the worst places of black and white violence in Britain."

"This was an example of the problems between black and white people and they want to exacerbate them. They want to use these to build their strength."

The Nation of Islam is led in Britain by Wayne X, a self-employed graphic artist from London.

Bronx boy who preaches hate

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

LOUIS FARRAKHAN and Colin Powell were both born in the Bronx in the 1930s to immigrants from British West Indian colonies, but there the similarities between these two prominent black men end. General Powell has become a symbol of racial harmony; Mr Farrakhan of racial hatred and division.

Mr Farrakhan was born Louis Walcott 62 years ago to a Bahamian mother and a Jamaican father who died when he was three. He was raised in Boston, dropped out of a North Carolina teacher-training college after two years, and became a professional calypso singer known as The Chatterbox. After a 1955

performance in Chicago he met Elijah Muhammed, leader of the Nation of Islam, a militant black Muslim group founded in Detroit in 1930 on the idea that Christianity was the religion of the white oppressor. He joined, changed his name to Louis X, and embraced the celebrated Malcolm X as his mentor.

In 1964 Malcolm X fell out with Elijah Muhammed and left the Nation. Mr Farrakhan called him a "dog" who deserved to die, and in 1965 Malcolm X was assassinated by three Nation members. After Elijah Muhammed's death in 1975 Mr Farrakhan

split with Elijah's son, assumed his present name, and formed his own Nation of Islam which he has built into a high-profile organisation with somewhere between 10,000 and 200,000 dedicated, highly disciplined, bow-tied members.

The Nation has its own security force, Fruit of Islam, its own newspaper, *Final Call*, and an extensive business portfolio.

Mr Farrakhan lives with his wife and five daughters in a heavily guarded Chicago mansion. He is a mesmerising speaker who fills stadiums round the country, and since the early 1990s has been seeking to broaden his base through a more moderate image.

Cameroon joins club of nations

London: Cameroon is to join the Commonwealth as its 52nd member, Chief Eneke Anya, the Secretary-General, will announce today (Michael Binyon writes).

It will be welcomed next month at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Auckland, after a report from a group led by Dr. Kamal Hossain, a former Bangladeshi Foreign Minister, on democracy, human rights and compliance with Commonwealth principles.

The country, a union of two trust territories run by Britain and France since their removal from German control after the First World War, sought membership in 1989. It will be the first member to be admitted that had not been wholly under British rule.

Castro gets help with US embargo

Barbados President Castro of Cuba was in jubilant mood when he arrived in this Argentine ski resort to attend today's fifth Ibero-American summit, joining leaders from 18 Latin American countries and Spain and Portugal (Gabriella Ganini writes). For the first time, he has been assured that at the end of the two-day summit a unanimous declaration will be issued against the American imposed Cuban embargo. The European Union has also announced plans to encourage economic links.

Reprieved maid cries for joy

Dubai: The parents of Sarah Balaban, a Filipina maid, went to the house where she killed her 85-year-old employer and thanked the Baloushi family for saving her from the death penalty. Danilo Cruz, the labour attaché at the Philippines Embassy here, said, Balaban was said to have "cried for joy" over the reprieve. In return for dropping the death sentence, the Baloushi family agreed to accept £25,000 in "blood money". The appeal court could, however, still impose a jail sentence on her. (AFP)



A Muslim defendant in a military court near Cairo

Egypt to put 30 more on trial

Cairo: Ignoring criticism by human rights groups and opposition parties, the Egyptian Government is to put another 30 members of the largest Islamic group on trial before a military court. The decision brings to 79 the number of Muslim Brotherhood members facing military trials in the first such cases in nearly 30 years. The first trial began at Hakestap military base near Cairo on September 16. The courts have been criticised because they do not allow appeals and have handed down stiff sentences. (AP)

Out of space

Cape Canaveral: Scott Parazynski, a 6ft 2in NASA astronaut, has pulled out of a four-month stint on the Russian *Mir* space station because he is too tall for the cramped Soyuz ferry capsules. (AP)

Saddam follows up poll 'victory' with new curbs on playboy son

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

UN told to tighten checks on Iraq arms

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations is being pressed by America to tighten its weapons monitoring system in Iraq after the revelation that Baghdad has again been secretly importing sensitive missile technology.

US officials say a covert procurement network has been activated to purchase millions of dollars of missile components in Europe and Russia in direct contravention of the UN trade embargo. Equipment includes advanced missile guidance systems as well as special metals, machine tools and a million-dollar furnace from France that can be used to manufacture missiles.

News of the secret procurement effort was given by Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the UN special commission set up at the end of the Gulf War to dismantle Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. It caused consternation in the UN Security Council on Friday night.

UN weapons inspectors have set up a stringent monitoring system to prevent Iraq rebuilding its arsenal of unconventional arms. To stop it obtaining ballistic missiles, for instance, inspectors regularly check more than 30 facilities, and monitor some sites with video cameras.

Nevertheless, Mr Ekeus admitted he had "recently obtained information" that Iraq had resumed trying to obtain equipment.

Madeline Albright, the American Ambassador at the UN, said the revelation showed its surveillance system was inadequate and had to be adjusted and upgraded.

AS MILLIONS of Iraqis voted in a sham referendum yesterday to prolong the presidency of Saddam Hussein by seven more years, the dictator took steps to dissociate himself from the worst excesses of his debauched son Uday.

In what opposition groups took as confirmation that the murderous Uday could be the "Achilles' heel" of the regime, Iraqi officials leaked accounts of how Saddam, 53, had been infuriated by his eldest son's recent behaviour and had taken steps to curb his power as the presumed heir-apparent.

The officials told of how Saddam had personally lit a bonfire in a garage destroying Uday's collection of 100 luxury cars whose existence — he drove around Baghdad in a black Porsche — provoked resentment among citizens struggling to find food amid crippling shortages caused by United Nations sanctions.

According to the leaks, de-



Uday: criticised for causing defections

signed to quell resentment against the playboy's scandalous behaviour, the Iraqi leader blamed Uday for the defection of his two daughters and their powerful husbands in August which prompted yesterday's referendum designed to bolster his crumbling regime.

The officials said that the defections were prompted when Saddam failed to punish

Uday after he shot and killed his cousin and seriously wounded his cousin's influential father, Wathaf al-Tikriti, in a fit of pique over a rare sports car.

News of Saddam's move to curb the power of his arrogant eldest son — the younger son Qusay is in charge of his security guard — overshadowed the foregone referendum result. But Iraqi ediles remained sceptical that the orders to Uday to devote his time to doctoral studies in political sciences would prove more than a temporary manifestation of paternal wrath over a son who has received indulgence before.

Despite the claims of "democracy" being made in the state-controlled media, there was no question of Iraqis having a real secret ballot. At many polling stations, voters ticked the "Yes" boxes on the ballot papers on the registration table and put them in the boxes unfolded in order that the watchful eye of officials could observe their enthusiasm for the leader. In one

northeast Baghdad shun, the organisers did not even bother to point out the polling booths on the other side of the courtyard. Even when they did, many voters ignored them. "They are free to do their voting where they like, and anyway, no one here hates Saddam Hussein," an official said.

A trickle of "No" votes came in last night as tellers started counting the ballot papers. In a polling station in the capital's wealthy suburb of Mansour a "No" vote was the 26th vote counted.

Scorn for the referendum, increased by reports by the official news agency that the result would be 100 per cent support for Saddam, came from the London-based Iraqi National Congress, which said: "The 'referendum' should not deceive the international community. It is impossible to hold a free or fair election when the sole candidate is also the dictator of a ruthlessly repressive state."

Photograph, page 22

Undercover De Niro gets even with paparazzo

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

IN A sting which involved such classic props as a stretch limousine, electronic bugs and a large bag of used banknotes, Robert De Niro, the actor, has exacted his revenge on a troublesome cameraman.

A week ago, Mr De Niro was charged with punching Joseph Ligier, who had filmed him leaving a Manhattan night club. Mr Ligier caught the incident on his video camera and allegedly later offered to drop charges of assault if Mr De Niro paid \$150,000 (£95,000). The actor agreed, but was working with undercover police.

Mr De Niro arrived at the rendezvous on Friday in a long black car with

\$110,000 in a carrier bag. In the manner of any Hollywood action film, Mr Ligier joined Mr De Niro in the back of the vehicle and snatched the sight of the banknotes while the limousine purred off towards the office of Manhattan's District Attorney.

Unknown to Mr Ligier, Mr De Niro's car had been fitted with police listening devices. When the limousine reached the law offices, Mr Ligier entered the building to announce his intention to drop charges against Mr De Niro. He instead found himself held for questioning and will learn this week if he is to be charged with extortion.

Mr De Niro, 52, who specialises in hard-nosed film roles and is a combative

New Yorker, was reportedly "very gung-ho" during police planning of the sting. He prepared for his role with care and managed to keep calm while handing over the \$110,000. The money was later recovered and the assault charge against him has been dropped.

Mr Ligier demonstrated his own resilience by returning to his unloved trade. Video paparazzi, who sell their film to downmarket television shows, are viewed as the vultures of the celebrity market, sometimes seeking to pick fights with the famous to secure pictures.

At last on Saturday, Mr Ligier and his cronies were again outside the favourite haunts in Manhattan, offering money for information about stars' whereabouts.



De Niro: prepared for sting role with care

THE TIMES/DILLONS DEBATE

Trust: the secret of economic success?

THE most important issue facing industrial democracies is economic competitiveness. What makes some countries more successful than others? Are some nations blessed with the Midas touch?

Francis Fukuyama, who challenged the political and historical establishment with his controversial *The End of History and the Last Man*, is back. His latest book, *Trust: The Social Virtues and the Creation of Prosperity*, targets the world of business and global trade. He will argue at this Times/Dillons debate that trust between business people is the secret of economic success. A country's social and cultural characteristics determine its prosperity. Philosophers John Gray and Roger Scruton will debate this bold thesis with Fukuyama.

Chaired by Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, the debate is on Wednesday October 18 at Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1, at 7.30pm. Tickets at £10, which includes £2 off Fukuyama's book, are available by telephoning 0121-703 8113/8114, by faxing the coupon below on 0121-703 8109, or by sending the coupon with your remittance to Dillons Marketing, Royal House, Prince's Gate, Horner Road, Solihull, West Midlands, B91 3SA.

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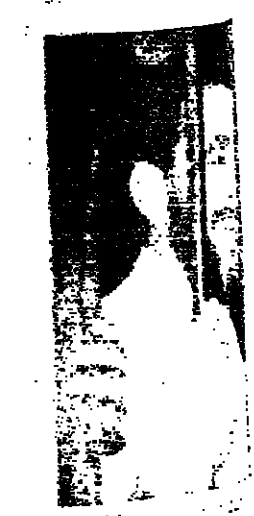
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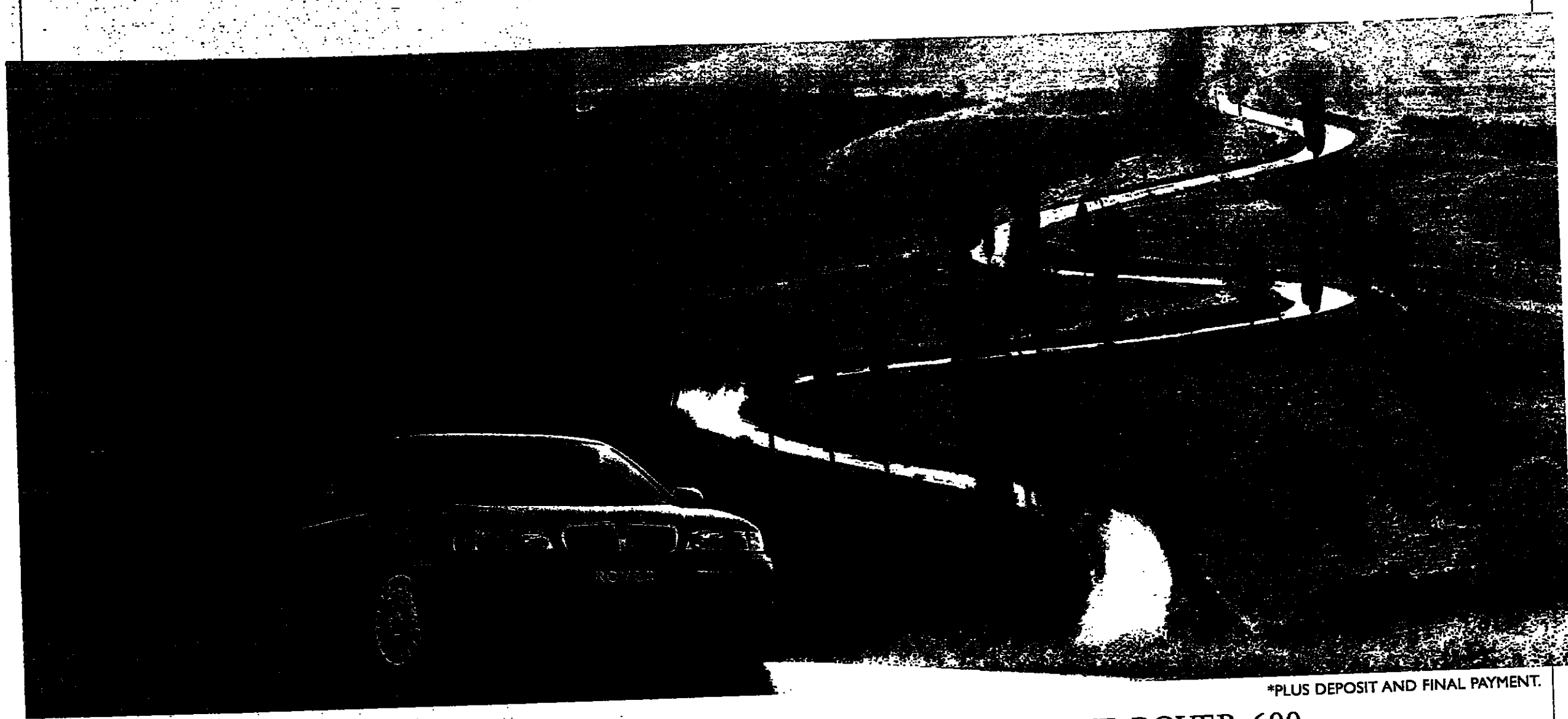
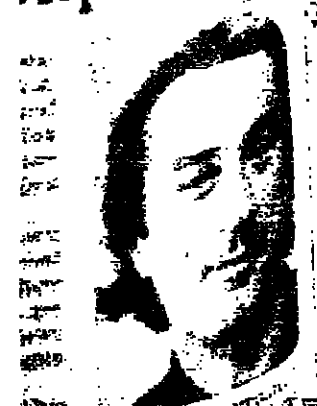
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Ciller demands early election in Turkey

FROM ANDREW FINKE
IN ANKARA

TANSU CILLER, the Turkish Prime Minister, called for an early general election yesterday after failing to salvage her struggling Government. She will now tender her resignation for the second time in less than four weeks.

Mrs Ciller failed yesterday to win a parliamentary vote of confidence for a minority administration designed to replace the four-year-old coalition that collapsed at the end of last month.

The margin of the vote, 230 against and 191 in favour, was wider than expected. Mrs Ciller was damaged by a handful of resignations from her True Path Party at the end of last week. The Democratic Left Party, led by Bülent



Ciller: beset by strikes and party defections

Ecevit, also decided not to pledge support from its ten MPs after the Prime Minister failed to meet pay demands of 650,000 public-sector workers. They have been demanding wage increases of more than

16.7 per cent in a wave of strikes over the past month. The annual rate of inflation is running at 91 per cent.

Yesterday's vote took place against a background of protests in Ankara, organised by unions representing 320,000 workers currently on strike. Four thousand police were on duty, equipped with armed personnel carriers and water cannon, while officers on main roads outside other large Turkish cities tried to stop coachloads of strikers from joining the demonstration in the capital.

Without referring to the strikers, Mrs Ciller told parliament her conscience was clear and she had put the interests of the country first. The demands by the workers, who are much better rewarded and far less productive than

those in the private sector, have failed to attract much public sympathy.

Mrs Ciller said no one could form another administration without her party, and called for an election as soon as possible. Her remarks were addressed as much to her colleagues as to President Demirel.

For weeks, Ankara's most ingenious rumour has been that Mr Demirel was by no means unhappy at his Prime Minister's predicament.

Mrs Ciller's problem is that she is the leader of a party created in Mr Demirel's image. She was catapulted into the job of Prime Minister not even half way through her first term as an MP. Mr Demirel left the job to become President after the death of Turgut Ozal in April 1993. She

was not his first choice for the job, and made no secret of the fact that there would be changes when candidate lists were drawn up for the next election.

Many of those in her party who abstained or voted yesterday against their Government were Demirel stalwarts. Before yesterday's vote of confidence, Mrs Ciller failed to secure the support of the Motherland Party, led by Mesut Yilmaz. Also voting against her was the pro-Islamic Welfare Party. Necmettin Erbakan, its leader, stayed well clear of the bitter negotiations of recent weeks and is believed to have improved his party's popularity accordingly.

Mrs Ciller did have the support of the ultra-nationalist National Action Party, led

by Alparslan Türkeş. Many believe that she is now hoping to push for an early poll in an electoral pact with him. Mid-December is probably the earliest that an election could be held. Winter voting in Turkey is difficult because of conditions in rural areas.

The European Parliament will be called upon in mid-December to approve a union with Turkey. Without a government, the country will have its work cut out to pass pro-democracy measures demanded by Strasbourg.

According to convention, the President will ask Mr Yilmaz, the main opposition leader, to try to form a government. The speculation is that he will be happier to enter an alliance with the True Path without Mrs Ciller at its helm.

Party rally offers little comfort to besieged Juppé

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

ALAIN JUPPÉ became the neo-Gaullist party's chairman yesterday in a symbolic vote that gave the beleaguered French Prime Minister and Mayor of Bordeaux another title, but did little to guarantee his political survival.

The annual congress of the conservative RPR (Rally for the Republic) party, held in the Paris suburb of Marne La Vallée, was a much-needed opportunity for him to demonstrate his mettle. As interim party chairman and sole candidate for the post, his election, by almost 93 per cent of the votes cast, was a foregone conclusion. However, the fall-out from a damaging housing scandal and the threat of rivals watching from the wings mean the Prime Minister's future is less predictable.

"Without you, I am nothing. With you and with [President] Jacques Chirac, we will hold on and we will triumph," he told delegates, but to muted applause.

Jean-François Mancoff, the RPR general secretary, called on the party to work "with Alain Juppé, for Jacques Chirac and for France... we are a single family, living in the same house with but one objective: to serve France." He declared before 20,000 RPR delegates in a marquee outside the gates of Disneyland Paris. It was a hopeful rallying call, but perhaps more appropriate to a fantasy world than the harsh realities of French politics.

Besieged by allegations of corruption, dwindling popularity, a threat of further strikes and a feeble economy, M Juppé remains, in the words of *L'Express* magazine, "a wounded man". Enemies have sensed blood and, beneath yesterday's staged patriotic harmony, pretenders are jockeying for position.

There are also signs that M Chirac is beginning to view his protégé as a liability. The President has not uttered M Juppé's name in public for weeks, and has been heard to remark darkly that "no one can govern for long in opposi-

tion to the money markets, trade unions and employers, not to mention judges".

Philippe Séguin, the parliamentary Speaker widely tipped as a successor, won a rousing ovation for his keynote speech in which he declared his support for the Government's battle to reduce the deficit. Last week, while M Juppé was in Paris coping with the largest public-sector strike for a decade, M Séguin was much photographed in Tunisia giving the President a guided tour of the house where he was born. A popular political operator, M Séguin is known to detest the Prime Minister but M Chirac may yet balk at appointing an outspoken Euro-sceptic.

Meanwhile, supporters of Edouard Balladur, the former Prime Minister, have advanced amendments to M Juppé's budget, underlining that they are still a force. More intriguing is the possibility that Alain Madelin, the free marketeer and former Finance Minister sacked by M Juppé in August, may be recalled — a move that would delight the markets but enrage the unions.

The Prime Minister's approval rating has dropped 20 percentage points in the past month; barely 30 per cent of the electorate have confidence in him, according to a poll in *Le Parisien* newspaper. An efficient technocrat but a brittle and irascible man, he has not taken his slings and arrows well. "They love you, then they leave you, then they lynch you," he griped recently. Supporters say that, with a new title and new home — he is moving into private quarters in the Hôtel de Matignon, the prime ministerial mansion and central office, a rejuvenated Prime Minister is emerging after five months of lacklustre government.

But if he cannot make good his promises to voters and his party — and convince the markets of his determination to reform the economy — M Juppé may soon be seeking a new job.



Russian soldiers block the road to Moskvoreskiy bridge early yesterday where the tourist bus was being held

Gunman killed in Moscow hijacking

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THE heart of Moscow resounded to gunfire and the explosions of stun grenades early yesterday as commandos stormed a hijacked tourist bus, killing the lone Russian gunman and freeing his foreign hostages unhurt.

In a dramatic end to a ten-hour siege played out just yards from the Kremlin walls, Russia's Alpha unit, the country's equivalent of the SAS, launched a daring rescue operation.

The hijacking began on Saturday afternoon when a masked gunman boarded a tourist bus carrying 27 South Koreans near St Basil's Cathedral.

"We thought it was a joke and all laughed," Yoon Dong Hyon, one of the hostages, said. "The man fired a warning shot towards the ceiling. We realised it was serious and gestured to vendors around the bus that we were in danger, but they thought we were saying hello."

The gunman ordered the bus to be driven to the centre

AMNESTY WEEK 15-22 OCTOBER



Marija cowered in a cellar, praying the armed men would not find her. But they dragged her out and took her away. She has never been seen or heard from again.

Marija is one of about 20,000 people in the former Yugoslavia who have "disappeared" — one more victim of a war in which the human rights of innocent people on all sides have been systematically trampled on and abused.

Four years after she was abducted, in the autumn of 1991, Marija's husband and teenage children still don't know whether she is alive or dead. They cannot even mourn. Their agony never ceases. Their grief never dies. The wound never heals.

This is why, of all the weapons of political repression, "disappearance" is the most cruel.

The list of atrocities from former Yugoslavia is numbing and unending. Each week seems to bring a new harvest of horror. People's human rights are being brutalised. At this very instant, someone is trying in a torture chamber, or in a prison cell.

Only the dead no longer cry.

The sinister conjurers who can make living people disappear are relying on your silence.

Whether you will play their game depends on what sort of person you are. But if you want the unlawful killing, torture and disappearances to stop, help by making a donation, or better still, by joining Amnesty International today.

Today is Monday 16 October. How many more days, how many more deaths, before you join us?

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Nato hunts for new chief as Claes prepares to quit

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN BRUSSELS

ALLIED governments have discreetly opened the search for a replacement for Willy Claes, the Nato Secretary-General, after a Belgian parliamentary commission advised that he should stand trial on corruption charges.

A parliamentary vote on the recommendation to prosecute Mr Claes, 56, who took over the post a year ago, takes place on Thursday. However, officials at Nato headquarters in Brussels acknowledged that a contingency list of possible replacements included Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary.

Highly regarded for his diplomatic skills in America and the Continent, Mr Hurd, 65, would enjoy broad support, though he was said to be determined to stick to his new

calling as banker and author. Other possible successors to Mr Claes include Rud Lubbers, 56, the long-serving Dutch Prime Minister, who had been a contender for the presidency of the EU Commission last year. Volker Rühe, the German Defence Minister, is also a possibility.

The most cited figure is Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, 54, the Danish opposition leader and former Foreign Minister. EU leaders admired the way he handled his country's accession to the Maastricht treaty.

The patience of Nato governments is likely to run out if, as expected, the full parliament endorses its commission's decision and votes to indict Mr Claes.

After months of dogged resistance, he indicated over

the weekend that resignation was an option. "I have not decided yet. I have to think first," he told the *Dinamische* newspaper. He added that he had not yet decided whether he would defend himself before parliament, as he had before the commission.

The Clinton Administration, which is pleased by Mr Claes's handling of the Bosnia operation, renewed its support for Mr Claes at the weekend, but in qualified terms. "We continue to have confidence in the performance of Mr Claes as the Nato Secretary-General, which is the essence of the issue at this point," said a White House official.

"Claes knows he will have to bite the bullet," said an associate of the volatile Socialist politician whose tenure has been tainted since February by the investigation into his party's finances in the late 1980s. Mr Claes is alleged to have been aware of a £1 million payment made by Italy's Agusta helicopter company to his Flemish Socialist Party.

Sweden's would-be leader hit by scandal

FROM NICHOLAS GEORGE IN STOCKHOLM

THE future of the woman expected to become Sweden's Prime Minister is in doubt after disclosure that she abused an official credit card.

Newspapers have reported that Mona Sahlin, the Deputy Prime Minister, has paid for holidays, clothes and private car hire worth thousands of pounds using a card intended purely for official duty.

Although Mrs Sahlin has repaid the money, sometimes with interest, this has often not been done for several months. Government officials had warned her that she was misusing the card, but she appears to have ignored the caution. The chief prosecutor is considering whether she committed a criminal offence. In an interview yesterday with the *Aftonbladet* newspaper, she said: "As it feels now, I don't want to become party leader. I'm so sorry about the whole thing I can hardly speak without crying. I have never stolen a single krona."

Mrs Sahlin, 38, had looked set to replace Ingvar Carlsson as Prime Minister and Social Democrat leader when he retires in March.

Corruption trial ruins Berlusconi comeback hopes

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

SILVIO BERLUSCONI struggled yesterday to retain the leadership of the Italian Right after a judge ordered that the media tycoon stand trial on corruption charges, virtually wrecking his chances of becoming Prime Minister again.

Moderates in his Forza Italia party openly called for Signor Berlusconi to renounce his candidature for Palazzo Chigi, the Prime Minister's office, in an election that analysts believe could be held in March. "If Berlusconi were to find himself on trial during the campaign, it would be inopportune for the Freedom Alliance to make him a candidate for premier," said Vittorio Dotti, Forza Italia's Chief Whip in parliament.

A Milan judge, Fabio Paparella, ordered at the weekend that Signor Berlusconi stand trial on January 17, together with his brother, Paolo, and four other managers. They face charges of bribing tax inspectors during investigations of the books of four Fininvest companies. Paolo Berlusconi has admitted to the charges but the media magnate claims he had no knowledge of the payments.

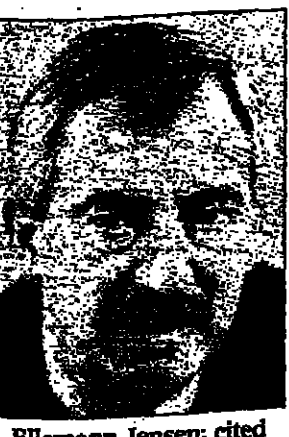
The judge said that a key element in his decision to order the trial was evidence that Silvio Berlusconi had sought to derail the inquiry

into Fininvest while he was Prime Minister last year. Signor Paparella referred to a visit by Massimo Berruti, Fininvest's legal adviser, to Palazzo Chigi on June 8, 1994, from where he phoned a former finance police officer who subsequently asked a colleague not to disclose an alleged bribe received from Fininvest. Under interrogation, Signor Berlusconi at first admitted seeing Signor Berruti at Palazzo Chigi, but later claimed that he was in a Cabinet meeting at the time.

Other Forza Italia leaders gave a show of unity for their beleaguered chief as he vowed to fight to clear his name. Signor Berlusconi said: "The trial does not impede candidatures."

However, other parties in the Freedom Alliance made it clear that they were uneasy about Signor Berlusconi clinging on to what they described as doomed ambitions. It has been urged to adopt either Antonio Di Pietro, the former magistrate who spearheaded investigations into Italy's endemic corruption or to support Lamberto Dini, the Prime Minister, at the head of a new administration.

Gianfranco Fini, the leader of the "post-Fascist" National Alliance, has distanced himself from Signor Berlusconi in recent weeks.



Ellemann-Jensen: cited as possible successor



Lubbers: fought for top Euro job last year

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ARTS
THE WEEK
AHEAD

■ VISUAL ART

The great portraits of Tudor and Jacobean England are celebrated in a major new exhibition at the Tate
OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



■ THEATRE

James Wilby stars, as John Osborne's controversial *A Patriot for Me* makes its Barbican debut
OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



■ DANCE

In Southampton, a classic novel comes alive as ENB mounts *Alice in Wonderland* at the Mayflower
OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday



■ OPERA

ENO takes an unconventional and refreshing glance at the Purcell tercentenary with a new *Fairy Queen*
OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday

Rodney Milnes enjoys Richard Jones's anarchic yet serious production of the final part of Wagner's *Ring* cycle

Music-making of the highest order

OPERA

Götterdämmerung
Covent Garden

Perhaps there should be a warning notice in the foyer, as there is nowadays about strobe lighting or gunshots, for those who are iffy about hypodermic syringes. Hagen shoots up at the beginning of the second act — those of charitable disposition argued that diabetes had been added to the list of his problems, but I fear not — and Siegfried's and Gunther's blood-brotherhood oath involves surgical spirit and a shared syringe, a good joke but one in perhaps dubious taste.

From which it will be gathered that Richard Jones's production of the final part of his *Ring* production for the Royal Opera has lost none of its power to, er, surprise. Complete cycles will be given next year, and that will be the time to sort out elements of visual imagery that remain puzzling, especially those involving house-flies, ladders, shoes and brown paper bags. For all its moments of anarchic humour it is intensely serious, definitely a *Ring* for our time, and if you don't like what you see on stage, well, just look around you.

Countless ideas unerringly hit the mark. At the opening the Norms are three very frightened ladies, desperate not to reveal the future, thrice vainly trying to tug the front cloth down. In the aftermath of the party conference season one knows how they feel. The nightmare world of the Gibichungs is powerfully suggested in Nigel Lowery's designs. Guttrune has more costume changes than anyone else and sports a Joanna Lumley-as-Patsy wig. Gunther and Hagen are not the marrying kind — I've always suspected this since first seeing the *Ring* 40 years ago, and it's high time these closet hero-fanciers were outed.

Most terrifying of all is the Summoning of the Vassals. Hagen rouses them at dawn, so they pile in straight from their sleeping quarters, small arms and helmets at the ready but in bewildering varieties of semi-dress: pyjamas, long-johns, vests and pants. They are a nasty crew, and when Brünnhilde is led in, the sense of public humiliation of a woman is far more powerfully stated than it could be by a band of traditional Teutonic Knights. You



The Act II humiliation of Brünnhilde in the Royal Opera production: not since Birgit Nilsson has there been a Brünnhilde with Deborah Polaski's steadiness and power.

certainly join Brünnhilde in her impulse to destroy this vile world, which she initiates with a spectacular cataclysm of collapsing cardboard boxes.

As to the actual ending, well, I don't know. The Personification of the Rhine comes to greet and collect her rather than vice versa, and it's all perhaps Schopenhauerian over-gloom with no hint of a new dawn. But as Wagner was not altogether sure how to end his cycle, I am not prepared to criticise Jones. That may all sound over-busy but

the most impressive thing about Jones, in contrast to so many contemporary *Ring* producers, is the extent to which having set up his visual world he leaves the conductor and singers to unfold the narrative via direction of admirable simplicity. With Bernard Haitink in charge, that is more than welcome. I don't want to turn this into a stroll down memory lane, but not since the days of Rudolf Kempe has the *Ring* sounded so beautiful; there's a special shot-silk string texture that Haitink conjures from his superb

orchestra which is surely unique. Haitink's Wagner is never portentous, never conjures up the wrong images; his handling of the Funeral Music is a miracle of tact. He knows when to press on — such danger spots as Hagen's Watch are kept on the move — and is not afraid of the purely visceral: Act II flies past at white-hot theatrical heat. This is music-making of the highest order. The cast is as fine as will be found today. Siegfried Jerusalem's agreeably laddish, hypermusical hero utters not an ungainly sound, and

uses years of experience to get round the tricky corners. Not since Birgit Nilsson has there been a Brünnhilde with Deborah Polaski's steadiness and power: at first her phrasing was less supple than in last year's memorable *Walküre*, but she saved her best for a most sensitively shaped *Immolation*.

Kurt Rydl's Hagen is impressively loud, but there could be more variety of musical response. Vivian Tierney and Alan Held make house debuts as Guttrune and Gunther with strong singing and a sharply

witty double-act. In his flying appearance to his dope-crazed son, Ekkehard Wlaschina's Alberich is duly alarming, and Jane Henschel, left alone for Waltraute's narration, makes the most of it. Three quite outstanding Norms — Catherine Wyn-Rogers, Jane Irwin and Rita Cullis — get the evening off to the best possible start. Lovely Rhinemaidens from Judith Howarth, Daniela Bechly and Leah-Marian Jones. Might Haitink relax the speed of their scene a little? Just a thought.

Mark makes his Miles

TRUMPETER Mark Isham, although chiefly celebrated as a prolific film composer — his score for *A River Runs Through It* was nominated for an Oscar — is currently burning incense at the shrine of his chief musical god, Miles Davis.

Not that Isham's quintet occupies itself with bloodless recreations of the great man's music; it is instead as if Isham has set himself to score a film dealing with Davis's life in the 1950s and 1960s, conjuring up the atmosphere of the late trumpeter's pre-electric music without ever resorting either to direct imitation or pastiche.

Isham is on record as aspiring, since the formation of this band in the early 1990s, to reflect "the attitude of 1950s cool jazz, but for the year 2000", and as a one-line description of the music he produced for a hugely enthusiastic (if over-talkative) Jazz Café audience, this would be difficult to better.

The presence of a machine, sparingly used, for producing discreet guitar, vocal and trumpet lines to impart atmospheric body to the more ethereal passages, and the employment of an electric bassist, Doug Lunn, instead of an acoustic player, ensured that Isham's music sounded contemporary.

His compositions, however, were packed with allusions to the Davis of 30

Mark Isham
Jazz Café, NW1

to 40 years ago: Spanish touches reminiscent of *Sketches of Spain*; languorous modal jazz à la *Kind of Blue*; fierce, funky group interplay as disguised by Davis's late-1960s band.

In a sensibly balanced programme, Isham interspersed fragile Harmon-muted ballads such as the haunting *In More than Love*, with poignantly melancholic flugelhorn features (*That Beautiful Sadness*) and intensely passionate, hard-swinging jazz occasionally hovering on the edge of abstraction — *Trapeze* and the bustling set-closer, *Tour de Chance*.

He even took a short detour into outright dance rhythms, indulging himself in a brisk bout of scintillating four-trading with tenor player David McMurtry, pianist David Goldblatt and British drummer Mark Mondesir on the exuberant ride-out to *UFO*.

It was Isham's slow-building, brooding material, though, which provided the bulk of the evening's highlights. Both a moving threndy to Davis, and *Miles to Go Before He Sleeps* and the title-track of his latest recording, *Blue Sun*, revealed that, as a dispenser of elegant, polished 1990s jazz steeped in the tradition established in Davis's late-acoustic heyday, Isham has few peers.

CHRIS PARKER

RECITALS: Noel Goodwin on Britten's songs and the Vanbrugh Quartet at the Wigmore Hall

Last Tuesday, Sarah Walker was a welcome contributor to the continuing series of Britten songs by a variety of artists which is the best possible celebration of his genius. Song engaged his attention at all phases of his composing career, even from the age of eight or thereabouts, and he in turn cultivated an instinct for word-setting that lifted the art of English song to new heights of musical beauty and perception.

Walker's operatic experi-

How Britten the child is father to the man

ence mainly in character roles has given her a sensibility to word and phrase that enables her to project lines to the fullest extent of their meaning, as she amply demonstrated in the anecdotal nature of *Winter*

Words, Britten's settings of Thomas Hardy getting almost as garrulous as Benjamin. Singing these in the lower-voice version Britten adapted for Janet Baker, Walker encompassed the poetic uplift of *Midnight on the Great Western*, the whimsy of *Wagtail and baby* and the profound quest into the unknown in *Before life and after* with its evocative harmonies.

Here the piano partnership of Malcolm Martineau conveyed both insight and feeling in support of the singer, skilled as he is in keyboard imitations of the youthful fiddler in *At the railway station*, *Upwey*, and exuberantly spirited for *Proud songsters*. Perhaps the singer could have used her ripe mezzo-soprano with more savagery for the unceasing vicar's words in *The Choirmaster's burial*, but there was no lack of points to admire in her artistry.

Besides these mature songs, we also heard three examples of Britten's juvenilia from age nine to 12, of which Longfellow's *Beware* is filled with fetching irony, and Asquith's epitaph, *The Clerk*, points to the skill the composer already showed in treating verbal imagery as well as poetic spirit.

Each Britten programme links him with composers who meant much to him, and this

one began with Schumann and the Eichendorff settings of the second *Liederkreis*, Op 39, in which Britten used memorably to accompany Peter Pears. Walker treated them with benign character, allowing herself some operatic touches in the more dramatic songs and subtle shading elsewhere, to which the pianist added both deftness and delicacy.

To celebrate its tenth anniversary the Vanbrugh Quartet did not spare themselves, or us, in the challenge of their programme. Two of the more demanding quartets by Beethoven and Bartók framed the premiere of another by Michael Berkeley, commissioned for the occasion with Arts Council funds, which maintains his reputation for inventive skill. The players were persuasive advocates for its vitality.

Effectively Berkeley's fourth work for string quartet, this one bears the title *Magnetic Field*, and the composer wrote to explain that his derivation from Purcell, and in particular the *Fantasia upon one note*, was to see how he might use one note "as a kind of magnetic force around which everything else revolves"; even when it is absent. The repeated note, F, is not so much an anchor as a springboard from

which the string writing takes flight, as it were, in different directions.

Early on there are barely discernible quarter-tones, these used not as an end in themselves but as a means to a slow and subtle expansion of the musical thought, rhythmically energised into organic growth from the centre. Near the end of a single movement lasting some 12 minutes, a kind of free cadenza instructs the players not to synchronise but to become "frantic" marking a turning point before the work folds back on to itself. Its finely wrought technique should attract plenty of opportunities for performance.

As a prelude to the new work, we heard Purcell's *Chacony in G minor*. The first violin, Gregory Ellis, asked the audience not to intrude after this so it could link directly with the Berkeley, although, in truth, I found a closer musical connection with Bartók's Third Quartet of 1927, one of his toughest in its compressed form and concentrated logic. Here the variety of instrumental techniques required of the players were produced with skill and assurance, in a performance of thrilling conviction.

To begin the programme, Beethoven's E-flat Quartet, Op 127, drew equally assured interplay, each responding to the others with a blend or contrast of tone colour that is a feature of Beethoven's acute sense of instrumental balance in spite of his deafness. In this masterly account the Vanbrugh Quartet gave every inch of a second decade no less distinctive than its first.

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

MONTEVERDI'S *L'ORFEO*

Reviewed by Bruce Wood

Produced in Mantua in 1607, *L'Orfeo* is a landmark in musical history: the earliest indisputably great opera. Monteverdi, like his lesser contemporaries, used recitative to carry the action forward; but he also added a rich mixture of tuneful arias, duets, choruses and sinfonias scored for a substantial orchestra, and specified a large and colourful continuo team to accompany the singers.

The current CD catalogue offers eight recordings, several dating back to the 1960s and 1970s. All use period instruments, but performing style has undergone radical changes in recent years, and some of the playing now sounds old-fashioned. Michel Corbois's 1968 recording with the Lausanne Vocal and Instrumental Ensemble, an apparently tempting bargain from Erato, is ruled out by ponderous string playing and poorly focused singing.

Corbois rerecorded the opera in 1986, with the Chapelle Royale Choir and the Lyons Opera Orchestra. This recording, on mid-price Erato, is preferable to his earlier one, but some of the solo singing is again below par, and the orchestral playing is brittle in places. Worse, the listener is often distracted by fussy continuo work.

This latter shortcoming also disqualifies Concerto Vocale under René Jacobs, on full-price Harmonia Mundi. There are fine singers here, but the mixture of continuo instruments is so lush that it constantly upstages them. Orchestral colours, too, are mingled recklessly: Monteverdi depicted Hades with dark-toned cornets and sackbuts;



but Jacobs freely overlays them with strings. So does Jürgen Jürgens, directing the Camerata Academica of Hamburg on mid-price DG.

The Monteverdi Choir and English Baroque Soloists under John Eliot Gardiner, on full-price Archiv, field a distinguished cast, with Anthony Rolfe Johnson particularly sweet-voiced as Orfeo. But the music performed a tone above written pitch, sounds shrill and hard-driven in some instrumental passages.

This leaves two mid-price sets, by Chiaroscuro and London Baroque, directed by Nigel Rogers and Charles Medlam (EMI CMS 7 64947-2), and by Vienna Concentus Musicus under Nikolaus Harnoncourt on Teldec 2292-42494-2. They are very different in approach: the Teldec grand and spacious, the EMI intimate, virtually a chamber opera.

But serious collectors should go for the set by the New London Consort under Philip Pickett (L'Oiseau-Lyre 433 545-2, £26.95). This sparkling digital recording features superb soloists (John Mark Ainsley is an exceptionally eloquent Orfeo), sharply characterised continuo accompaniment, and finely honed orchestral playing. Best of all is the sheer momentum of the performance: it has a natural flow and theatrical urgency rarely captured on CD.

Recommended recordings can be ordered from the Times CD Mail, 39 Pall Mall, London, W1G 6BT, (freephone 0800 418419; e-mail: bt@times.cd.uk)

Next Saturday on Radio 3 (4pm): Conductor George Szell

VISIONS OF AFRICA

A daily series of items featured in the Royal Academy's current exhibition, *Africa — The Art of a Continent*



Rock Engraving, Western Sahara, Morocco. Neolithic, stone, 54 cm high

ROCK engravings have helped the study of Neolithic wild fauna in the Saharan regions. The Sahara then was not the desert it is today, and many animals disappeared in the first millennium BC. The engravings are remarkably naturalistic, and often depict a variety of beasts — ostrich, antelope, sheep, goat and hyena. This rock shows antelope, their long legs reminiscent of a Dali painting.

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MUSIC
At the Festival Hall, the Philharmonia unveils Richard Rodney Bennett's latest composition
CONCERT: Thursday
REVIEW: Next week



FILM
Hugh Grant tries to resurrect his cinematic career in Hollywood's latest romantic comedy, *Nine Months*
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



POP
Boy George puts his domestic problems behind him as he attempts a comeback at Shepherds Bush
GIG: Saturday
REVIEW: Next week



BOOKS
A new collection by John Mortimer brings more tales from the colourful life of Horace Rumpole
IN THE SHOPS: Next week
REVIEW: Saturday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Benedict Nightingale on a successful Peter Hall revival of a difficult Ibsen play

Dangerous passions unleashed

Ever come across a critique that reads as if a prism was reviewing a maze or a maze a labyrinth? If not, let me recommend Henry James' notice of Ibsen's *The Master Builder* when it hit Britain in 1893. But at least his arcane conclusion — "the play smiles and mocks us as if in conscious supersubtlety" — was intended as praise. The majority view was expressed by the notorious Clement Scott, who felt he had seen something "written, rehearsed and acted by lunatics".

Well, yes, it still seems a difficult piece. You cannot emerge from Peter Hall's rich yet lucid revival without feeling you have climbed a dramatic mountain whose many caves and crevices you simply haven't had time to explore. But equally you cannot see Alan Bates onstage with the exciting new Victoria Hamilton without recognising the piece's raw accessibility. Why else would the role of Master Builder Solness have attracted Olivier, Redgrave, John Wood and Brian Cox in recent years, and convinced a large number of spectators they have been somewhere more rewarding than a kinetic asylum?

Bates' performance is strong and subtle. He hits many more notes than his trademark ones, which are sardonic mockery and snide self-mockery. Yet he never lets us forget the essentials. His Master Builder is painfully stuck in a stale marriage and an unfulfilling job. His energies, once immense and outgoing, are now directed towards keeping his talented deputy



Superb duo: Victoria Hamilton (Hilde Wangel) and Alan Bates (the Master Builder)

not just a passionate two-hander. Someone must embody the world that both principals find drab and limiting, and this task mainly falls here to Gemma Jones, playing Solness's wife Aline. She gives a fine, unconventional performance, too. The coldness that reminds Hilde of a burial vault is there all right, in Jones's parchment hair, yellowing face and wintry determination to do her duty. But she does not leave you feeling, as Aline usually do, that the character has completed an emotional suicide.

Instead, she suggests that and despair lurk beneath the weary-martyr manner. Give her a knife and a little encouragement, and, you feel, Solness might not make it to the end of Act III. When so dour and deathly a character can make an impact like that, no wonder the evening is a gripping one.

THE world of *Enter Achilles*, DV8 Physical Theatre's new touring show, is an all-male world where the only female presence is an indefinable softness, a denied, displays of affection are strictly of the gruff lads-together-mock-wrestling kind. We know them extremely well: those ritual hordes that smash beer glasses, reel out of pubs, urinate in doorways and urinate war chants, fists punching the air. Often, though, the same fists punch flesh, for alcohol brings violence and in our British culture the ability to down pints is a sign of manhood.

Not for nothing has DV8's director, Lloyd Newson, chosen a pub as his location: a

Lager-than-life lads

stereotypically drab, fluorescent interior by Ian MacNeil, where the walls and door are curiously shrunken so that the performers appear remarkably big, the way they feel inside this home territory. As is customary with DV8, the set is interactive, surfaces shifting and tilting, figures exiting and entering by unlikely routes.

Inside, the denizens hold their pint glasses like body extensions, accessories as dispensable as a Colt 45 to a cowboy. Any deviations from the accepted norm of lousy rough-and-tumble meets aggression — as if threatened by

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

EDINBURGH The Royal Opera House has the pleasure of presenting a new production of *The Cunning Little Vixen*, a winning combination of music and comedy originally written for a Broadway audience. Conducted by Sir Mark Wainwright, the production is directed by Sir Mark Wainwright. Tickets: £10-£25. Tel: 0131 225 1234.

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THEATRE GUIDE

THE NEON BIBLE (15) A sensitive, a childhood in the American Bible Belt. Descent from director Tom Noonan. Tickets: £10-£25. Tel: 0131 225 1234.

NIGHTWATCH (18) Mopey nightwatchman gets the gig. Danish film. Tickets: £10-£25. Tel: 0131 225 1234.

SPECIES (18) Aliant's horror classic. Tickets: £10-£25. Tel: 0131 225 1234.

THE BURNING (18) William Shakespeare's last play. Tickets: £10-£25. Tel: 0131 225 1234.

CINEMA GUIDE

ASSASSIN (15) Cat and mouse games between two cold killers. Tickets: £10-£25. Tel: 0131 225 1234.

BRAVEHEART (15) Overly bloody epic. Tickets: £10-£25. Tel: 0131 225 1234.

THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY (15) Best-selling romance. Tickets: £10-£25. Tel: 0131 225 1234.

APOLLO 13 (PG) The near-fatal moon mission of 1970. Tickets: £10-£25. Tel: 0131 225 1234.

ENTERTAINMENTS

<p>OPERA & BALLET</p> <p>COLLIERIE 011 882 8800 (24hr) Ensemble National Opera Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 011 304 4000 4000 for Box Office & Sunday Info Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THE ROYAL OPERA Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THE ROYAL OPERA Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRES</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>	<p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p> <p>THEATRE Times: 7.00, 10.00</p>
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Beautiful Skye's beast of a bridge

Magnus Linklater on the island's controversial and costly new link

At about 11 o'clock this morning, Steven Campbell, a ten-year-old pupil from Loch Duich Primary School, will advance towards a ribbon strung across a concrete bridge. Cutting it, he will close a long chapter in the history of an island, perhaps the most romantic of all island histories. For Skye is not just any island, it is a Hebridean dream, an inspiration, a state of mind. Sorley Maclean, the Gaelic poet, called it "the great beautiful bird of Scotland" and supposed that the ocean was restless with love of it. Dr Johnson, no admirer of Highland scenery, thought it the finest of all the islands he had seen on his tour with Boswell.

But from today it is no longer an island. Joined to the mainland by a concrete box-girder bridge, Skye has become an adjunct rather than an entity. Now it will be possible to drive across in just a few minutes. The days when you dipped down from the pier at Kyle of Lochalsh, bounced up a ramp onto the ferry, then swung out into the teeth of a southwesterly gale tearing up from the Sound of Sleat, are over. The Macbrayne's ferry is being with-

'Skye is being held to ransom by a private company'

drawn to force motorists to use the bridge and pay the tolls. There is no alternative, except for the true romantics, who will drive south to Glenelg and cross over to Kylethorpe, a 25-mile diversion on single-track roads. No one is neutral about the bridge. Those who see it as a feat of engineering admire the way it has been completed in just over three years, in weather conditions and tidal currents which make the Firth of Forth seem like a mill-pond. The Miller Group, which won the contract in 1991, joined forces with a Munich-based company, Dyckerhoff & Widmann, to build a conventionally arched bridge, completed only three months late at a capital cost of £25 million. Skye Bridge Ltd has until 2019 to repay its costs from tolls.

Most of the local outrage has been directed against the toll charges — the highest in Europe. "The community is being held to ransom by a private company," says Kathleen MacRae, of the Skye Bridge Appeal Group. "We're seen as a soft target."

Sir Iain Noble, chairman of the company, once adamantly against the building of a bridge, but now a

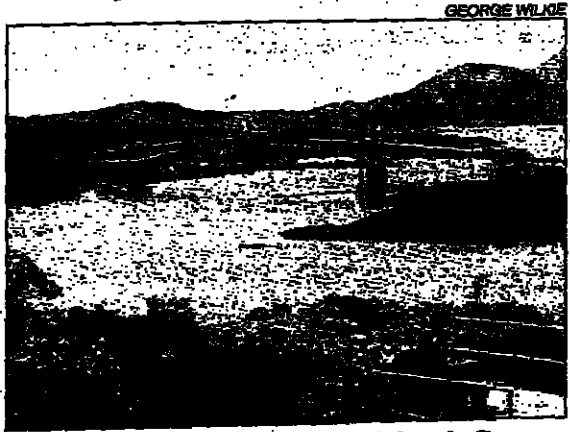
convert, says the time has come to welcome a "dramatic and important day" in the history of the island. "This has become the bridge that everyone loves to hate, but the time for nostalgia is past. Skye does not consist of an island of grumblers."

There is, however, no lack of grumblers about the bridge on aesthetic grounds. The design has been a matter of enormous controversy; on paper it looked elegant, but completed it appears simply inadequate to its surroundings. This is one of the most majestic landscapes in Britain, but there has been no attempt to echo it, to match the grandeur of nature with a structure of man-made confidence. Instead, this is a lowest common denominator bridge, designed to offend as few people as possible.

"It is utterly predictable," says Gavin Stamp, the architectural historian. "It is hideous, unnecessary, wicked. It is like a great big motorway bridge. There's not a single argument in favour of it." Murray Grigor, who has made many films about Scottish art and architecture, commented: "John Betjeman thought it would be impossible to design an ugly bridge until the saw motorway bridges. This is one of them."

And Charles McKean, former secretary of the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, says: "It suburbanises one of the greatest wild landscapes in Europe. This is typical of contemporary culture, where the impulse is to minimise the impact of everything. It's deeply miserable." He pointed out that the design was rejected by the Royal Fine Arts Commission, the RIAS, and the Saltire Society. However, the National Trust for Scotland approved.

To all of which, Sir Iain Noble responds: "I like it. I think it's a very good statement. It gives the impression of giving a great big jump. And that's exactly what we have done." It may be a giant leap for Sir Iain, but it is a step back for island-worshippers, or those with a poetic streak. Sorley Maclean's hymn to Skye ends gloomily: "There is no hope of your townships rising high with gladness and laughter... Fly the eye that sees on the ocean the great dead bird of Scotland."



Toll charges to Skye will be the highest in Europe

In memory of Dr Joan



Joan Francisco's life was glamorous but her first priority was her medical studies

Last week, 120 doctors gathered at the Royal College of Obstetrics, in Regent's Park, to hear Robert Winston, the infertility specialist from Hammersmith Hospital, lecture on genetics. He began by paying tribute to Joan Francisco, a young, black, woman doctor, notable by her absence.

Nearly a year ago, Dr Francisco was strangled in her St John's Wood basement flat. The lecture was given in her memory. In the audience was her older sister, Margrette who had travelled from Los Angeles to hear the first talk arranged by the fledgling Dr Joan Francisco Foundation and the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Queen Charlotte's Hospital. The foundation will help ethnic minority students to fund their way through medical school.

The mention of Joan's name and an unexpected photograph of the 27-year-old at the lecture reduced Margrette to tears. As this articulate lawyer-to-be recalled the incident she cried anew. "Yesterday at the lecture I felt this tremendous sense of sadness," she said. "As wonderful as the Joan Francisco Foundation is, it's all because Joan is not here."

Police found Joan's body, strangled, at the bottom of the stairs of her rented flat on Boxing Day. She should have been flying to Los Angeles for celebrations with Margrette and her other sister, Celia. A rear door to her flat had been left open and her bedroom ransacked, but there was no evidence of sexual assault. Police say she was murdered between 9am and 12.55pm.

Inquiries revealed that Dr Francisco had once been the victim of an obsessive male colleague who fraudulently used her name to obtain a mortgage and a car. Ten months later, however, the murder has not been solved.

What does Margrette miss most about her sister? "It's hard to pin it down to any one thing," she says, as she lights another cigarette. The action prompts a memory: "Oh yes, Joan couldn't stand me smoking. And she was always on at me to lose weight. I miss her telling me that." "She was beautiful, effervescent, chic, exuberant, witty, always telling jokes... She loved her work and cared passionately about her patients. She once said bringing life into the world and saving lives is the most valuable contribution she could make."



Margrette still grieving Rachel Kelly reports on a murder victim whose life is honoured by a charitable trust

Murdered doctor was pestered by obsessive man

The Times report on December 29, 1994

Joan Francisco was born and brought up in Acton, west London. Her mother Venus, a nurse, was from St Lucia, her father Alfred, a teacher from Belize. The Francisco household was a cultured one in which education was important. She went to a local convent school and, despite being told she would never make it to medical school, she persevered. She studied at the Royal Free Hospital Medical School, graduating in 1991, and specialised in obstetrics and gynaecology.

Her was a glamorous as well as a studious life. She starred at parties on both sides of the Atlantic. John Fashanu, the former Wimbledon footballer, was a friend. So was the boxer Lennox Lewis. She drove a black BMW and was known

as much for her style as for her medical dedication. There were boyfriends, but she wasn't going out with anyone when she died.

Her greatest pride was her work. It is fitting, then, that the foundation is seeking to fund medical scholarships, lectures, and what Margrette calls a mentor programme. Both Joan's sisters are training to be lawyers and any success they may have is attributable, Margrette says, to their parents, who cherished ambition.

"Other young black people aren't so lucky," she says. "The mentor programme is to help them to receive the kind of support that we have had." Only 3 per cent of applicants to medical school are black, she says. When she talks of the foundation, Margrette's sadness lifts. "It's helped me tremendously, to help to set this up," she says. "As a Buddhist, I believe that you can turn any sort of thing, however tragic, to something positive. Either you freak out and fall apart with severe depression, or you decide you are going to focus on trying to generate something good out of it."

After the initial shock of Joan's death she developed an obsessive desire to know what had happened; that gave way to concern for her mother, still too upset to discuss her daughter's death. Slowly, Margrette has groped towards acceptance of her loss, and to honouring Joan's memory.

In this spirit, she has now ceased to wonder who the murderer may be. There is nothing she can do, she says blankly. But there is something she can do for the foundation. She has hired a public relations firm, invited *HELLO!* magazine into her home, set up a committee, published leaflets and is galvanising support for the official launch in November.

Still tearful, Margrette recovers her poise when the photographer arrives to take her picture. "I hope you've got a skinny lens on that camera," she jokes as she touches up her streaked make-up.

She must, after all, look her best — for Joan's sake.

© The Dr Joan Francisco Foundation, 74 The Ridgeway, Acton, London W3 8LR (0171-494 2115).

Joanna Pitman meets Dawn Upshaw, the voice of Górecki

Rapid rise of the demure diva

A GLORIOUSLY intense and glass-clear soprano voice soars to the roof of the Berlin concert hall. Suddenly nobody is in any doubt that we are in the presence of a devastatingly powerful voice. This is Dawn Upshaw, a normal mother of two who still insists on scrubbing her own baths but who is also a fast-rising star in the international classical music firmament.

Hers was the haunting voice on the recording of Górecki's *Third Symphony*, which leapt to the top of the pop charts last year. And she has just scooped up her first Gramophone Award — Britain's answer to the American Grammys — in the music theatre category for *I Wish I So*, an album of songs from Kurt Weill to Stephen Sondheim.

In person, she has few diva tendencies. The morning after her Berlin recital, she came

to her interview minutes after stepping from the shower — hair still wet, face scrubbed. "Sometimes," she says, "performance artists get placed on pedestals and start imagining that they are anything but human. It has happened to lots of my colleagues and they seem to enjoy it, and that's fine. But I don't want to be treated specially."

With her feet squarely on the ground, Upshaw is blasting away at music's cult of personality, removing the formalities and also challenging the protocols underlying classical music. Her style is contemporary in that she is as comfortable performing in the music-theatre idiom as she is with German Lied.

In this convention-free approach, Upshaw is very American. Born in Nashville in 1960, she was brought up in the suburbs of Chicago. "My



Upshaw: devastating power

step of setting off, alone and friendless, for New York to attend the Manhattan School of Music. "I think my naivety helped me over the difficulties," she says. "It's still tough getting over the idea that lots of people are looking at you."

Soon she was winning competitions and gaining confidence, and by the age of 23 she was one of the New York Met's prized singers. Her schedule for the next 12 months, which includes *The Rake's Progress*, *Werther*, *Idomeneo* and *Theodora* at Lyons, the *Bastille*, Glyndebourne, Salzburg and the Châtelet, reflects her towering position in the performing world of the lyric soprano.

YET YOU would never guess it from her shy and slightly embarrassed response to the applause at the end of her Berlin recital. But as she walks off stage after two encores and nine curtain calls, she permits herself a smile.

It is the smile of the crafts-woman, the quietly private self-congratulatory smile of the person who has done well and knows it.

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(former nurse)

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Matthew Parris



Charities which compete to disgust us more and more may be undermining their own support

Members of horrors are one of a society's traditional attractions. But if this autumn these delights have attracted less business than usual, I have an explanation. The charity stalls in the halls of the three great party conferences have staged exhibitions which disgust beyond the ambitions of any splash of fake blood or lick of luminous paint; beyond the bounds of taste such as we might ask a Gothic dungeon to respect — and beyond, indeed, its budget.

For me, something snapped when I was talking to those at a stall aiming to explain the challenge of HIV and Aids, and conversation was drowned by a dreadful squealing. "Heavens," I asked, "what's that?"

"It's the Compassion in World Farming stall," they replied. "There's a video of a pig with its insides being dragged out, on a looped tape. We've had it all week. It gets you down. It's so disgusting."

So disgusting that it became hard to focus on the photo of two men engaged in sex, which graced the HIV stall. I moved on. The pig-evisceration yielded to something involving a broken-legged cow in a slaughterhouse. The squealing gave way to moaning. The moaning faded as I left the stall behind.

By comparison, the Amnesty International stand was restrained: just a heart-wrenching photograph of a mother and baby with their house burning down. The Refugee Council brought a further image of a weeping mother, but why this mother was weeping escapes me, for such images were superseded by a large photo of a human being covered in brutal welts, at the Commission for Racial Equality.

The impression I got for primacy with a photograph at the National Asthma Campaign stall: of a suffocating girl, fighting for breath. Back in the foyer, the League Against Cruel Sports invited visitors into a stall ornamented with a picture of a dying stag; nearby, a bloodstained terrier. Their photo of a disemboweled fox was reserved for the Tory conference, later.

I am uneasy. The reason is hard to put my finger on. Naturally, most of us prefer not to see disturbing images, yet if something is true the case for showing it cannot lightly be dismissed. But it is — I hesitate at this word — the combination of sickness with horror that especially disgusts. It is all so professional. The photographs are well lit, cleverly positioned and of the highest quality; the brochures expensively produced and worded in that PR-speak which is easy to spot though hard to define. One senses the growth of a high-powered cadre of men and women who are good at

what they would call "communication" in the field of humanitarian charity — professional conscience prickers, if you like — whose skills are pretty much transferable between causes. The art of presentation swells in importance.

Every image of suffering on those stands would have been selected from many. I would like to believe that such choices would be made without any desire to out-shock a rival charity and without the least disposition to be pleased by a heart-rending picture. I am not confident that this is so.

The argument for showing the truth is strong, and so is that for stimulating concern by shocking. But, encapsulated in four questions, may I propose three possible brakes on the gathering momentum?

First: in leapfrogging each other to be more horrific than the last, how far are individual charities simply pitching for a greater share for themselves of a finite pool of national concern? How much do they gain this at the expense of other charities? Secondly: might this process act only

Are the charities merely raising the shock threshold of the public?

Fourthly: as charities grow more professional, might we grow more cynical and defensive about charity as a whole?

Among the fringe meetings at Blackpool, one was advertised as "Press for change" and aimed to show that the law is cruel to transsexuals. A nice, rather timid woman, who had once been a man came along to her meeting to beg a few of us to come along to her meeting too. I decided against this, as the presence of a humorous journalist might have unnerved rather than encouraged her.

So I read her pamphlet. It was not professionally produced. Phrases like "Laws relating to sexuality can be very hard on transsexuals" have the ring of sincerity rather than slick copy-writing. The pamphlet explained the case fairly, but one had to think. There were no shocking pictures, no savage soundbites. It was understated.

I heard that four people attended this lady's meeting: four people plus one kind MP, Roger Sims. Afterwards the woman looked disheartened. We should weigh her argument and people like Mr Sims in the balance against a hundred publicity-seeking MPs and slick advertising pitches last week, and find the latter wanting.

But the exhibition has now been shut to make way for an education centre. No one at the castle or the palace was prepared to comment, but the exhibition closed two weeks ago, according to the Windsor Information Centre. Yet because it still features in guidebooks, droves of tourists are to be seen wandering about the cobbled forecourt eager to see the royal goodies. Instead, builders are at work for the scheduled reopening next year. "All we know is that it closed at

There are many strong candidates to be the new Editor of the *Telegraph*, and all shall have prizes!

So who will be yesterday's man?

A surprising number of my friends seem to have entered for the race to be the next Editor of the *Daily Telegraph*: the result is expected this week. In the early 1980s I was once said to be being considered for the same post, on an earlier vacancy. I was invited to a somewhat mysterious but agreeable lunch at the Garrick by Bill Deedes, who was then the Editor. We gossiped about politics for an hour or so and then parted, with no mention having been made of newspaper matters. I was later told that the idea had been vetoed by Lord Hartwell, then the proprietor, with the observation that "Rees-Mogg is not our kind of Tory". I look that as a compliment.

Now, however, I seem to know all the candidates, some of them quite well, in addition to the outgoing Editor, Max Hastings, and the proprietor and his wife, Conrad Black and Barbara Amiel. It is like settling down to one of those excellent past classical comedies at the National Theatre, in which every character is played by one of the grand old hands of the London stage. Conrad Black himself has two agreeable characteristics. The first is that he has a respect for age, something which is rarer than it used to be. He treats those who are older than himself in the spirit of the commandment, "honour thy father and mother". When I see him, he pulls up a chair with great courtesy, and asks my opinion with a deference which is altogether disarming. I am told that doctors now complain that the age of chivalry is dead, that they are treated with no respect by their patients. Conrad has manners which would restore the self-esteem of the most querulous physician. His other excellent characteristic is that he is fundamentally serious; he likes to argue things through vigorously, as does his journalist wife.

Max Hastings was at school at Charterhouse some years after I had left. He did not get on with his housemaster, Bob Arrowsmith, who had been my form-master and had introduced me to many 18th-century authors. On the whole, I have found that Max and I have a similar difference of view about the personalities of public life. Max is cool about those I most admire, and I am cool about those he most admires. Otherwise I can find no fault in him, and expect that he will make a successful Editor of the *Evening Standard*.

The running rumour this weekend was that Andrew Neil is to be made Editor-in-Chief of both the *Daily* and *Sunday Telegraph*. Editors-in-chief are a bad idea. One either edits a newspaper or one does not. The good editor takes his own decisions, and does not welcome having an interloper between himself, or herself, and the proprietor. I do not believe such an idea is probable, and if it happens it will lead to tears.

I'm not sure that Andrew Neil is the *Daily Telegraph's* type of Tory any more than I was. He is a Thatcherite radical, and all the better for that. *Daily Telegraph* readers were carefully cultivated by the first Lord Carnarvon in the 1930s; they are more hereditary than Andrew, who is a Scottish carnivore; he has the temperament of the SAS, and they have the temperament of Dad's Army. Andrew Neil is also a great modernist. He wants us all to move rapidly into the 21st century, and when we get there

he will be accelerating out of sight into the 22nd. The *Telegraph*, and its readers, feel most comfortable if they remain about eight-and-a-half years behind the times. All newspapers must either be progressive or traditionalist: the *Daily Telegraph* has long since opted for a sort of contemporary traditionalism, for the *Zeitgeist* of the day before yesterday, but not of the day before that. This makes its readers feel safe, but Andrew would make them feel insecure. I write occasional essays for the

rad Black's staff: Charles Moore, the Editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*, Dominic Lawson, the Editor of the *Spectator*, Simon Heffer, a senior editorial figure on the *Daily Telegraph* and Frank Johnson, who writes columns for both the *Daily* and the *Sunday*. Frank Johnson, it is said, would like to be Editor. He is too enjoyable a writer for that to be welcome to his readers; we do not want him to slide into anonymity.

However, there could be an answer to that problem. The *Daily Telegraph* also contains the ghost of the *Morning Post*, once the main newspaper for classified advertising for servants for the aristocracy (wanted, a between-maid at Castle Howard, pay £10 a year, uniform supplied). In the Roman Catholic Church we have the custom of appointing honorary abbots to monasteries which have long since been dissolved. One of the senior monks at Downside is the titular Abbot of Glastonbury. Conrad Black himself is a Catholic: why should he not appoint Frank to be the titular Editor of the *Morning Post*?

Simon Heffer is a sharp-minded political commentator of the Right who has written an excellent life of that hateful Victorian proto-Nazi, Thomas Carlyle. He deserves promotion, but perhaps not to the *Daily Telegraph*. He has the political weight to edit the *Spectator*, which also belongs to Conrad Black. That would mean that Dominic Lawson — whom I have known since he was in

William Rees-Mogg

Daily Mail, whose Editor, Paul Dacre, has also been tipped for the *Telegraph*. When he asked me to write, we met over a glass of champagne at Claridges, which proves what a sound Editor he is. I cannot see why he should push to change, when the *Daily Mail* is the unchanged leader in its marketplace. Nor can I see that Jeremy Paxman, the Robin Day of his period, would want to exchange his present fame, fortune and power for long hours on the *Telegraph* back-bench.

There are four candidates, or potential candidates, already on Cor-

his pram — would have to be moved up. Why should Dominic not edit the *Sunday Telegraph*, which already takes what one could call a *Spectatorish* view of the world?

Charles Moore should then become the next Editor of the *Daily Telegraph*. He was a successful Editor of the *Spectator* and he has also been a success at the *Sunday Telegraph*. He writes almost eloquent leading articles, of real intellectual vitality. He believes in encouraging talent; both his editorships have been marked by the development of new and interesting columnists.

His critics say that Charles Moore is too intellectual, too old-fashioned and has too much of a grouse-moor image to edit the *Daily Telegraph*. Max Hastings shoots pheasants in Norfolk; even *Daily Telegraph* readers are unlikely to relish pheasants while resenting grouse as too aristocratic a dish. Charles is indeed intellectual and he is old-fashioned, but the one virtue offsets the other. If he were intellectual and modernist, like Andrew Neil, that would frighten the horses. If he were old-fashioned and unintellectual, that would seem fuddy-duddy. He can present the ideas of the 21st century with the scholarship of the 19th. Who could ask for more than that?

In terms of the chocolate box, the *Daily Telegraph* has for many years represented soft-centred Toryism, where the *Sunday Telegraph* — as well as Conrad Black himself — has been hard-centred. If Charles Moore does move to the *Daily*, it will presumably move from strawberry kulant to Brazil nut fillings. We may break our teeth, but we shall have something to bite on. What is pleasing is that there is now such lively competition in the ranks of young journalists of conservative opinions. Conrad Black is spoilt for choice, particularly if one compares his position to that of the Tory party.

Complacency won't do

Peter Riddell says the Tories too must think about the constitution

The Conservative Party needs to start thinking about constitutional change, not just out of intellectual curiosity but for pressing political and electoral reasons. Tory strategists believe they can win — "save" might perhaps be a better word — the next election by presenting themselves as the party best able to make Britain internationally competitive, with lower inflation and taxes, a stronger voice in Europe and so on. These are necessary conditions, but they are not sufficient. They do not answer the core question of whether it would be unhealthy for British democracy for one party to be in power for nearly a quarter of a century, as would happen if the Tories won a fifth term.

John Major is something of a closet constitutional reformer. You might not think so from his conference speech on Friday, when he confidently defended the integrity of the United Kingdom and denounced Labour's devolution proposals. But while he obviously disagrees with Labour's radical reformism, he accepts that our political system has serious failings. However, he mainly appears as a defender of the constitutional status quo.

Few ministers accept the need for the Tories to offer their own positive ideas rather than just react to Labour's. When I raised this with a number of Cabinet ministers in Blackpool, the responses were a mixture of incomprehension and dismissal. These matters were only of interest to the chattering classes, I was told. Constitutional reform is low on the list of priorities in determining people's votes, with the partial exception of devolution in Scotland.

But, as a MORI poll for the



Rowntree Reform Trust showed, the number of people believing that government works well has fallen since the early 1970s from nearly a half to just over a fifth. Support for reform has also risen substantially. Few voters may articulate their choice in this way, but the sense that the political system is not working well is part of the broader feeling that it is time for a change.

Moreover, it is contradictory for Tory MPs to behave as if our constitution worked well. The very people who protest most about the growing encroachment of European institutions are often complacent about the constitution. They might — should — dip into three complementary new books: Simon Jenkins's *Accountable to None*, Andrew Marr's *Ruling Britannia* and Peter Hennessy's *The Hidden Wiring*. Their

conclusions differ, but they agree that far-reaching changes since 1979 have challenged previous conventions and centralised power. Jenkins argues, like Marr, that the Thatcher and Major Governments "demolished respected checks and balances on central power, and in doing so undermined democratic freedoms".

Hennessy views the constitution as a precedent and guide for our rulers. But even in his warning of radical change, he acknowledges the search for "a better status quo, a modernised-but-not-reformed spirit". More sophisticated ministers, William Waldegrave and, in his time, John Patten, have accepted that change has occurred, but have argued that it is for the better. They

believe that privatisation and the creation of hospital trusts and grant-maintained schools have strengthened the democratic rights of individuals, as consumers of public services rather than citizens at the ballot box. These changes have produced gains. But many of the bodies running these services depend on central government. Ministers have taken on discretionary powers which they would be horrified to see used by their Labour Shadows.

The underlying problem is that one party has been in office for so long. Ministers believe they are right merely because they are there, and any criticism — whether from the Lord Chief Justice, a bishop or a vice-chancellor — is merely special pleading which can be ignored. The practices, as well as the structures, of pluralism are in decay.

None of this is an argument for wholesale reform, but rather for a recognition of our eminently Tory kind of the limits of power. Any doubters should refer to that elegant Tory constitutional commentator, Ferdinand Mount. There is no law which says that the pendulum of power should swing to the Opposition, but after so long in office the incumbent party needs to demonstrate that a further term would not damage the constitution.

To counter the radical reform programmes of Labour and the Liberal Democrats, the Tories need to re-create some of the checks and balances which have disappeared since 1979. This means strengthening local government accountability, responding to Scotland's demand for more self-government, creating safeguards over the discretionary powers of ministers, and changing the way Parliament works to deal with Europe, the judges and free-standing bodies like utility regulators.

Mr Major recognises some of these points. Aside from his achievements in Northern Ireland, he has opened up the workings of Whitehall and backed far-reaching changes in Commons sitting hours. He would personally like to go further in parliamentary reform, as shown, for example, by his criticism of the stridency of Prime Ministers' Questions. He also set up the Nolan committee as a standing body "to provide running repairs on standards in public life" (although it has turned into more of a continuing study of constitutional practices). Despite continuing controversy over the outside interests of MPs, the Government has already accepted many of the Nolan recommendations on the vetting of ministerial appointments and on codes of behaviour affecting ministers and ex-ministers.

Perversely, ministers have made little of these changes. No platform speaker even mentions them in Blackpool. They are only a partial answer, but they are a start. The Government needs new thinking on the constitution as much as on economic and social policy. Merely defending threats to "our nationhood" is not enough. The Tories need to show that it is safe to re-elect them.

Museum piece

THE CARRIAGE in which the blushing Princess of Wales sat on the way back to Buckingham Palace from St Paul's Cathedral after her wedding has been ousted from the museum at the Royal Mews Exhibition at Windsor Castle, where it has been one of the principal tourist attractions.

Many of the Queen's carriages and coaches, and the ornate state harnesses, as well as the magnificent array of presents given to her on royal trips abroad, are displayed here for the public to

ogle. But the exhibition has now been shut to make way for an education centre.

No one at the castle or the palace was prepared to comment, but the exhibition closed two weeks ago, according to the Windsor Information Centre. Yet because it still features in guidebooks, droves of tourists are to be seen wandering about the cobbled forecourt eager to see the royal goodies. Instead, builders are at work for the scheduled reopening next year. "All we know is that it closed at



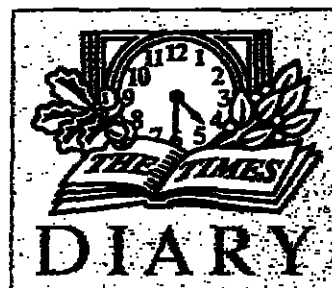
The royal carriage has been driven out

the end of September and will re-open early in 1996. We've been told a new education centre will give visitors a history of the castle with videos and talks," says a representative at the information centre. The future of the exhibits is uncertain. "I reckon they will go into mothballs," says a gloomy policeman on the gate.

Little whine

In a move likely to have MPs and peers spluttering in their claret, the Liberal Democrats will call for every bar and restaurant in Parliament to stop buying and selling French products, including wines and cheeses. The campaign follows a motion passed at the party conference calling on the party to boycott French goods.

In an early-day motion to be tabled today, Matthew Taylor, the party's environment spokesman, will ask MPs to say "non, non, non" to all French products. He said: "Thousands of British people are angry about the French nuclear tests. It is time MPs said no to Brie, no to Camembert and no to champagne in the Commons. Boycotts are already visible in British restaurants and supermarkets — politicians must now register their outrage."



Young Jonathan Caine has resigned from the Northern Ireland Office, where he has been Sir Patrick Mayhew's dependable sidekick throughout the peace negotiations. Caine is a staunch Unionist, who some predicted would quit over the green-tinted negotiations. In fact, he is leaving to become a political lobbyist for a Westminster PR firm.

Humph hunt

HUMPHREY, the Downing Street cat, may have returned home to great fuss, but his country cousin, also called Humphrey, is still missing. The buxom Humphrey lives in the village near the Majors' home in Great Snuckley. He too is a long-haired black-and-white cat. "He went awol in July," says his owner, Angela McCracken, a Lab-

our town councillor. "We believe he may have gone off hunting. He is a great hunter, with a penchant for pheasants, in and out of season. But he is ten — too elderly to sleep rough this coming winter."

Scrub up

ONE MORE story about Alec Douglas-Home, who was buried on Saturday, must be told from the forthcoming biography about his late brother, William. Alec was determined to visit his younger brother



"It's an invitation to Lady Thatcher's birthday party"

er when he was incarcerated in Wormwood Scrubs in 1944 as a conscientious objector. With some difficulty he succeeded in obtaining permission from the Home Secretary.

David Fraser, the author, relates: "Will had grown a black beard, and his appearance caused Alec first to dissolve into helpless laughter and then, from sheer astonishment, to find himself more at ease in talking almost entirely to the supervising warder." Will apparently enjoyed telling this story, and always remembered the visit with hilarity.

Bill and Hillary Clinton boarded a New York riverboat on Friday night to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of National Review magazine, one of their most ardent critics. The best crack of the evening came from George Will, columnist and master of ceremonies. The birthday crisis, he said, was a metaphor for the Clinton administration: floating at sea, going nowhere.

Sing 'Cheese'

DIVAS are well known for their quirky temperaments. According to *Classic FM Magazine's* November issue, Cecilia Bartoli, the glam-



Bartoli: grate things

orous young Italian mezzo soprano, has a curious attachment to cheese. She lugs a large chunk of parmesan around with her as she travels the world.

She explains that it is her cure for homesickness, and is apparently absolutely necessary to keep her strength up. Only parmesan from her local delicatessen in Rome gives the required emotional and culinary support.

P.H.S

DEATH IN THE

THE FEMALE

Warning calls from an Oxford

has been a university at which at least 150 years; but it was only in 1879 that the first degree was awarded to a woman. The celebration on Saturday at St Anne's College to mark the anniversary was a occasion both joyous and reflective. It was because it celebrated the achievement of women in a male-dominated world, and the attention to the enormous imbalance between men and women of the world of academic achievement and the male still blocking the path to equal opportunity.

In the past 75 years, Oxford has educated women Prime Ministers, Nobel laureates, and women who have shaped the face of society, the sciences and the arts. Appropriately, St Anne's devoted its celebration to the achievements of women whose achievements are now taken for granted but whose resolution and determination in a male-dominated world were, in retrospect, remarkable.

Baroness Castle of Blackburn and Gillian Triggs were there from either side of the Atlantic divide. They were in surprisingly close agreement, particularly on the need for a language aimed at women in the public life are never described as "quiet voices," although in my experience many of them are. Of all the women the greatest honour belonged to the 67-year-old who was walking up the



SANTER'S ERROR

Attacking federalism is not the same as attacking foreigners

Yesterday the President of the European Commission, Jacques Santer, took the rare step of attacking an individual minister of a member state, describing Michael Portillo's speech to the Tory party conference last week as "grotesque and deplorable". Mr Santer said that he and his "Tory friends" were deeply unhappy about the robust rhetoric employed by the Defence Secretary. The Conservative Left, meanwhile, was firing its own salvo at Mr Portillo, as the 90-strong Positive European Group protested to the Prime Minister about his colleague's "intemperate language".

Defending himself yesterday, Mr Portillo conceded that his speech had been a "fortissimo" expression of the Government's newly-sceptical European policy. Before a torpid hall of listeners last Tuesday, the Defence Secretary drove home his argument by satirising the ambitions of the European Commission. He envisaged a time when its bureaucrats might restrict soldiers to a 40-hour week, "harmonise uniform or cap badges, or even merriment them". Mr Portillo was using comic caricature to make a serious case. This is often a perilous course, but he was scarcely the only politician to adopt such tactics during the conference season. The risk he took was that some would find his use of this rhetorical device offensive. The ultimate danger was that few would grasp his point at all. His invocation of the SAS's motto "Who Dares Wins" was an ill-judged attempt to appropriate military glory for political ends. But it was no more so than Tony Blair's claim the week before that VJ-Day veterans supported Labour.

So much for the tone of Mr Portillo's speech: argument about rhetoric should not now drown out debate over its content. At the heart of the speech was the pledge that Britain would not agree to a single European army. Mr Portillo was immediately accused of setting up an Aunt Sally in order to savage the European

Commission. Yet the idea of a federal army is not the deluded fantasy of Euro-sceptic fanatics. It is a proposal which has been given serious cross-party consideration throughout the Continent.

The European People's Party (to which Tory Euro-MPs are allied) has called for "the possession by the EU of its own instruments of defence and security including nuclear weapons, with the removal of the common foreign and security policy from the intergovernmental sphere to Community competence with qualified majority voting and European Parliament involvement". The German Government backs restrictions on the nation-state's veto in defence matters and the integration of the Western European Union — the European pillar of Nato — into the European Union. Many on the Continent see the French-German-Belgian Italian Euro-Corps as the first step to a European defence force. Britain opposes such measures but that does not mean they have been ruled out by our partners.

To pose questions about such plans — and to challenge them — is a legitimate tactic for an elected minister to adopt. Nor should firm Euro-scepticism be confused with xenophobia. Saying that an attack on Brussels is an attack on foreigners is like saying that an attack on Whitehall is an attack on Londoners. Mr Portillo's target was not foreigners but federalist ambition. The persistence of these ambitions was clear enough from Mr Santer's remarks. He spoke of the absolute need for "closer union"; he promised a single currency by January 1, 1999, "at the latest"; he said that a common foreign and security policy was an inescapable consequence of a single market. By setting itself against federalism last week, the Conservative Party has distinguished itself sharply from Labour. This distinction will be an important part of Mr Major's bid for re-election. He may not emulate Mr Portillo's rhetoric but he should not disavow its message.

DEATH IN THE RING

Boxing can never be risk-free, but it can be made a safer sport

Another young man died yesterday from injuries in the boxing ring. James Murray was declared brain dead, and the surgeon who had earlier removed a blood clot from his brain said that after the injury had occurred "pathology took its course". In other words, nothing could have saved the victim whose name is the latest inscription on boxing's memorial to the dead one he had been hit on the head, probably early in the fight.

The reaction to the tragedy followed its formal date. The British Boxing Board of Control announced an inquiry. The British Medical Association repeated its ritual call for a ban on boxing. Even the promoter said it was difficult to justify his sport after its latest death. Once again boxing is called to account.

This time the administration of the fight seems to have followed best practice. In spite of the riot by the dinner-jacketed crowd, paramedics removed the stricken fighter from the ring within 30 seconds, a doctor and anaesthetist were at the ringside, and the boxer was given the best treatment available anywhere. The riot was an aberration that has never happened before at a dinner boxing match, caused by tribal rivalry, inadequate stewarding and admission of too many fans after dinner at the back of the hall.

Again the question is asked: how can any sport carry on with such a catalogue of death and damage. Does boxing need a 20th-century set of Queensberry Rules to civilise it? South Africa has introduced weighing-in five days before a contest, in order to avoid the dehydration and weakening of fighters struggling to make the weight. It would be more effective for the BBBC to make snap inspections of gymnasias to supervise and if

necessary, rule out fighters who are struggling to make their weight. Rounds might be reduced from 12 to 10, as Queensberry reduced their time to three minutes. Doctors should be allowed to intervene in a fight before the end, as they are in America.

Some experts say that headguards add to the torque on the head and so to the danger, though in that case it is odd that they are obligatory in amateur boxing. Heavier gloves might reduce the damage, in the way that the Queensberry gloves did. A ban on hitting below the belt would reduce the spectacle to make it as bloodless for spectators as modern fencing with buttons. Other sports such as motor racing, rock-climbing and rugby kill more. So do driving a car and crossing the road. But boxing is the ultimate sport in which two men set out to damage each other under rules. Its rules need to be kept under constant supervision.

Boxing can be a brutal sport, though it is also the ultimate sporting test of skill, pluck and determination. It has deep roots going back beyond the bare-knuckle slogging matches of Tom Cribb and Mendoza to the gladiatorial arena and the first Olympic Games. Society through Parliament might one day decide to ban boxing, as it has banned duelling, bear-baiting and prize-fighting with bare knuckles. The boxing administrators have a last chance to restore public confidence in their sport. What they must now do is rationalise their absurdly overlapping organisations; and improve the supervision of fighters before and after their fight. Unless they do so, public outrage after each successive tragedy will eventually lead to the banning of boxing.

THE FEMALE DEGREE

Warning calls from an Oxford celebration

There has been a university at Oxford for more than 750 years; but it was only 75 years ago that the first degree was awarded to a woman. The celebration on Saturday at St Anne's College to mark the anniversary was an occasion both joyous and reflective: joyous, because it celebrated the overcoming of an historic inequality; reflective, because it drew attention to the enormous imbalance still between men and women at the pinnacle of academic achievement and the obstacles still blocking the path to equal opportunity.

In the past 75 years Oxford has educated three women Prime Ministers, women Nobel prizewinners, and women who have changed the face of society, the sciences and the arts. Appropriately, St Anne's invited graduates from each of the past seven decades whose achievements are nowadays taken for granted but whose resolution and stamina in a male-dominated world were, in retrospect, remarkable.

Baroness Castle of Blackburn and Gillian Shephard were there from either side of the political divide. They were in surprisingly strong agreement, particularly on the routine use of language aimed against women. "Men in public life are never described as bossy," Mrs Shephard complained in her deceptively quiet voice, "although in my experience many of them are." Of all the guests the greatest honour belonged to Constance Savery, the 97-year-old who was one of the proud women to walk up on the

stage of the Sheldonian Theatre on October 14, 1920. She has lived to see a revolution unimaginable by her fellow graduates.

Oxford was hardly in the vanguard of that revolution. Edinburgh University, as far back as 1894, had already graduated women in medicine, that most protectively male of all disciplines. But at least Oxford was not such an academic laggard as Cambridge, which, astonishingly, did not confer full degrees on women until 1948.

The women who gathered at St Anne's also recognised that the revolution is unfinished. Women have achieved theoretical equality in virtually all fields. But it is in the very area where they gained their qualifications for later achievement that this inequality is most glaring. The senior academic field is disproportionately the preserve of men. Only 5 per cent of Oxford's professorial chairs are occupied by women. All kinds of reasons have been advanced: the time-lag between graduation and senior academic position; the difficulty, especially in science, of women keeping up to date with a discipline's rapid evolution if they take time off for child-rearing; and old-fashioned prejudice as evident in the senior common room as in the boardroom. The virtual demise of single-sex education at Oxford stands to make matters worse. St Anne's rightly celebrated the distance women have come in 75 years. But the celebration highlighted how much farther they have to go by the century.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Howard's sentencing policy and the US experience

From Lord Windlesham

Sir, It is hard to believe that the Home Secretary should have overlooked the experience of the United States in formulating his latest ideas on sentencing (letters, October 14). Of all the populist-inspired panaceas that have afflicted the administration of justice in America in recent years, none have had more unintended effects than mandatory sentences of imprisonment and "three strikes and you're out".

The federal prisons are overloaded with drug offenders serving lengthy mandatory sentences for relatively low-level offences, so much so that Congress last year had to enact a safety valve provision.

In California the entire system of criminal justice has been dislocated by the precipitate adoption of a broad version of the three-strikes policy. In Los Angeles County, which accounts for up to half of the state's criminal justice workload, an increase was expected of 144 per cent of felony cases going to jury trial rather than being disposed of through plea bargaining.

To make space in its jails for more than 1,000 three-strikes inmates awaiting trial, sentenced inmates had to be released.

The canons of "truth in sentencing" were defied by the fact that whereas before the introduction of three strikes, convicted offenders in Los Angeles County generally served about two thirds of their sentence before being released, after implementation the proportion of sentence served fell to about 45 per cent. Before three strikes, the county's jail population consisted roughly of 60 per cent sentenced offenders and 40 per cent pre-trial inmates. After, the proportion reversed to 30 per cent sentenced and 70 per cent pre-trial.

The effect on civil justice has also been profound. In October 1994 no civil cases were tried in three of Los Angeles County's ten superior court districts. More than half the 80 courtrooms used for civil cases in the Central District were diverted to criminal trials. By early 1995 the Superior Court expected that 60 of the 120 judges normally hearing civil cases would be redirected to criminal cases.

If implemented in full, it has been calculated that the three-strikes law will cost the State of California an additional \$5.5 billion per year. Expenditure on prisons, which trebled between 1980 and 1994, is estimated to double again by 2002 to pay the cost of three strikes.

At the other extreme, despite the emphasis placed by President Clinton on three strikes in his 1994 State of the Union speech, the definition of what constituted a strike in the federal jurisdiction was drawn so narrowly that by July 1995, ten months after enactment of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement legislation, only 10 third-strike cases had been brought in US district courts.

Although a White Paper is promised, it seems that Michael Howard has already made up his mind. But he is mistaken if he thinks he is bringing forward "radical, new proposals". They are discredited old ones.

Yours faithfully,
WINDLESHAM,
House of Lords,
October 14.

Street signs

From Mr John H. Cox

Sir, Your correspondence on inadequate street signs (September 29, October 4, 10) must surely express the opinions of the vast majority of travellers in this country.

I would suggest three more improvements which would reduce the frustration of the seeker of an address, whether on foot or driving, whether by day or night. These are:

The number of the house must be clearly displayed (and of reasonable size) on the gatepost. (And *Mon Repos* will not do).

The street name must be repeated at reasonable intervals — say every 200 yards; and the name of the side-street must be displayed on both sides of its entrance, thus visible on approach from either direction.

The name of the village or town must be clearly announced at point of entry. The AA used to show this on a friendly yellow disc which showed you not only where you were, but where you had been (plus distance) and where you were going (plus distance). This was a comforting and helpful sign.

In France they even tell you when you really are at last through that village or town by displaying its name crossed out. This can evoke sadness or relief, but either way you know where you are.

A good project for the coming millennium.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN H. COX,
2 Bushy Court,
Upper Teddington Road,
Hampton Wick,
Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey,
October 10.

From Wing Commander Richard Dauncey

Sir, It is not just the absence of street signs that causes problems around the corner from my London office, there is a 200-yard gap between Nos 32/32a and No 34 Weymouth Street which includes two Harley Street and two Upper Wimpole Street addresses as well as the crossroads with those two streets.

Needless to say, many of us who pass down this street have plenty of opportunity to guide lost souls.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD DAUNCEY,
Lentons, 34 Main Road,
Napthill, High Wycombe,
Buckinghamshire,
October 10.

From Mr Chris Wilkinson

Sir, I note that the address of Dr H. A. Osmaston's cottage (letter, October 9) has neither number nor street name.

Yours etc,
CHRIS WILKINSON,
24 Wynnstay Close, Cardiff,
October 9.

Lost in cyberspace

From Mr David M. A. Smythe

Sir, I heard recently a BBC radio presenter dictating an Internet address complete with "backslash backslash" and "the at symbol". There must be a more elegant method of defining Internet addresses.

Car registration numbers always used to tell us where a car was registered; phone numbers still tell us the location. Internet addresses are the great incomprehensibles of today: they are ugly, not memorable and tell the layman virtually nothing.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID M. A. SMYTHE,
Clog Farm, Methven, Perthshire,
October 13.

Short cut

From Mr Peter A. Reed

Sir, I agree with Matthew Parris (article, October 9) that reports of murder cases and the Royal Family are boring. I'm only sorry that he took twice as long as he needed to make his point.

Yours sincerely,
PETER A. REED,
59 St Katharine's Way,
St Katharine by the Tower, E1.

Selecting pupils for Oxford entry

From the Principal of St Anne's College, Oxford.

Sir, Your editorial of October 9, "Level heads", was based on a claim by heads of private schools that the universities are biased against good private school candidates for admission. Oxford has been accused of bias by the independent and the maintained schools in equal measure.

For the record, the figures over the last three years show that about 43 per cent of Oxford's intake were from maintained schools and 45 per cent from independent ones. The balance was made up of international and mature students.

Earlier this summer Tony Blair claimed that the proportion of independent school pupils at Oxford had remained the same for 30 years (report, July 17). This view takes no account of the position of the grammar and direct grant schools, which produced the best A-level results in the 1960s.

In the mid-1960s 34 per cent of direct grant and maintained school leavers had A-level grades of BBB or above compared with the national average of 18 per cent. Today 30 per cent of independent school applicants

have grades of ABB or above compared with 14 per cent of state school applicants.

Over the last 25 years many direct grant schools have changed to independent status, thus improving and transforming the private category. The great majority of Oxford's successful entrants have grades ABB or better.

The fact that many of our successful applicants come from the independent sector reflects the excellent academic results attained by pupils from those schools.

Selection for Oxford entry is on academic criteria. All our candidates are considered very carefully on their individual merits. We aim to be accessible to all candidates with ability and we discriminate neither in favour of nor against students from particular types of schools. We simply seek to admit the best students from amongst those who apply.

Yours sincerely,
RUTH DEECH,
Chairman, Joint Undergraduate
Admissions Committee,
Oxford University,
St Anne's College, Oxford,
October 10.

Exam board standards

From Mr A. V. G. Hagedorn

Sir, John Day, Secretary-General of the Associated Examining Board (letter, October 11), contends that there is no significant difference between the standards applied at A level by the Associated Examining Board and those of the now disbanded Oxford and Cambridge Board. I cannot agree.

Some 22 years ago, as head of mathematics in an independent school, I was concerned by the decision of the school to move to the OAC board for its A-level examinations. The reasoning was based on the perception of admissions tutors at both Oxford and Cambridge that the OAC examinations were more demanding than those of our former board.

I argued that, if this were true, it must be because grades would be harder to achieve — which would hardly be in the interests of our less able students (95 per cent) who were not going to be candidates for either university. With permission from the school and the co-operation of both parents and students I prepared and entered an entire mathematics group for examinations in both boards at the same sitting.

Whilst the sample size was far too small for valid statistical analysis we were able to compare the two sets of

results with the predicted achievements and our known experience of each pupil. Although the overall "point" score from the two boards (10 our internal scale) was broadly equivalent, we were satisfied that our former board had produced results that closely matched our expectations, so our department continued to use it.

The difference between the question papers at that time was considerable. On the OAC board, questions were more demanding and apparently aimed at discriminating accurately in the A-C grade range. Our former board set questions of a more even standard with a better choice which covered more of the syllabus each time; it also had far more entries, which indicated better norm referencing of the grade-award procedure.

Both as a former exam supervisor at an independent school and, more recently, as the computer systems project manager for two examination boards, I believe that Professor David Burghes and Mr Howard King are right in "standing up for common sense" (report, October 9). I regard the stance of the Associated Examining Board as complacent and defensive.

Yours faithfully,
A. V. G. HAGEDORN,
79 South Primrose Hill,
Chelmsford, Essex,
October 12.

Veterinary troubles

From the President, European College of Veterinary Pathologists

Sir, It is gratifying to read of the new Chair in Equine Reproduction at the University of Cambridge (report and leading article, October 11). The sport of kings finds a midwife! (October 13). This is the latest example of ways in which UK university veterinary schools benefit from private benefactions.

Such welcome generosity may deflect attention from the serious problems that result from recent massive expansion. Veterinary schools have been driven to increase student numbers without much regard for the implications for teaching facilities, staffing levels, or graduates' employment prospects. Indeed, over a period in which students generally have increased by as much as 90 per cent, academic staff numbers have decreased by about 20 per cent and further economies are required.

The core of public support for university veterinary schools is now seriously inadequate because of reducing unit costs. The stark contrast between private generosity and public parsimony has disturbing implications for veterinary medicine in the UK.

Yours etc,
D. F. KELLY,
The University of Liverpool,
Department of Veterinary Pathology,
PO Box 147, Liverpool L69 3BX,
October 13.

Georgian shades

From Mr Bernard Kaukas

Sir, The tenth tip of what not to do to a Georgian building — "Don't paint stucco white or the pale shades often seen today..." (Rachel Kelly's article, October 11) — is questionable.

Stucco was used in speculative building during the Georgian era to imitate ashlar, particularly in the accompanying context of Palladian detailing of windows, cornices and mouldings. The colour generally used to imitate stone was cream. Nash was very good in this field.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD KAUKAS,
Savage Club, 1 Whitehall Place, SW1,
October 11.

Rail sell-off

From the Reverend Courtney Atkin

Sir, The Minister for Railways and Roads seeks to assure us (letter, October 6) that "far from faltering, the franchising programme is gathering increasing momentum".

Would that he could say the same of the trains themselves.

I am, Sir, yours etc,
COURTNEY ATKIN,
2 Newlands Court, Victoria Road,
Ledbury, Herefordshire.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Detective causes puzzles himself

From Mr Robin Chapman

Sir, Never mind Adam Dalgliesh and inner-city mayhem (letters, September 30, October 9). In adapting P. D. James's first three Dalgliesh stories for television I had the devil's own job getting him to the scene of the crime at all.

What, after all, was a senior policeman from New Scotland Yard doing on location in East Anglia where the local CID were in reality, perfectly capable of conducting the necessary inquiries?

It was also quite tricky to include Dalgliesh in any opening episode because the initial crime he was to investigate had first to be committed within a suitably involved closed community, such as a forensic science laboratory (*Death of an Expert Witness*), a student nurses' hostel (*Shroud for a Nightingale*) or a private country house (*Cover her Face*).

Somehow he had to be there ahead of time. We couldn't begin a series without a meaningful appearance from our star, the impeccably cold-eyed Roy Marsden.

As for Dalgliesh the poet — he has published. In his very first appearance on TV in 1983 I wrote him an elegy to speak while lighting a candle in memory of his wife who had just died. And in a later series a slim volume of his work was glimpsed in a distinctive Faber & Faber jacket.

Who knows, perhaps one day P. D. James will allow him to publish his collected poems? If not I should be happy to oblige.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN CHAPMAN,
Mas del Pla, Cherm de la Mer,
66510 St Hippolyte, France,
October 11.

Media and disabled

From the Chief Executive of Scope

Sir, Alexandra Freeman ("Ready, willing, disabled", *Media and Marketing*, October 11) is absolutely right when she says that people with disabilities are grossly under-represented in the media. Charles Denton, the Head of Drama at the BBC, whom she quotes, identifies one of the major reasons for this: people are embarrassed by the idea of disability because they are not familiar with it.

The fundamental problem with disability in the community is that it is so often kept out of sight. A disabled person in the street is still a sufficiently rare occurrence that people will often remark on it. If our society continues to "hide away" disabled people no wonder television programmes and films do the same.

Disability Today, Scope's magazine programme for anyone interested in disability issues, is being screened on BBC2's *The Learning Zone* until April. A competition to find two of the programme's presenters was flooded with more than 80 entrants, proving that disabled people are in fact ready and willing to work in the media and appear on our screens, not only as presenters, reporters or actors but in all aspects of the media, if only given the opportunity.

When the media stops presenting disabled people as either "pathetic victims" or as "superhumans" battling against the odds, the public may begin to realise that disabled people are not a minority group needing special treatment but that they are part of real life and should be represented as such on our screens. Attitudes towards disabled people will change only when they are fully integrated into mainstream society and the media have a vital part to play in this process.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BREWSTER,
Chief Executive,
Scope,
12 Park Crescent, W1,
October 11.

Time travel

From Mr Lawrence Mills

Sir, The problem with the Reverend Anthony Andrew's suggestion (letter, October 13; others, October 5, 7, 12) of the destruction of the serpent rather than Adam and Eve is this: if Adam and Eve were disposed of there would be no human outcry; but imagine the fuss the animal rights lobby would make if the serpent were killed.

Yours faithfully,
LAWRENCE MILLS,
19 Bancroft Court,
Reigate, Surrey,
October 13.

From Mr Constantine Camboouropoulos

Sir, Why destroy anyone or anything? Just make the tree of the knowledge of good and evil barren.

Yours faithfully,
C. CAMBOUROPOULOS,
Ashcroft,
Lewes Road, Ringmer, East Sussex,
October 13.

From Dr P. Preston Brooks

Sir, The reason Adam and Eve should be obliterated rather than the serpent is that it would cut off the emergence of a fatefully flawed species in favour of the more successful kinds.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK PRESTON BROOKS,
17 The Mount Square, NW3,
October 13.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 14: By Command of The Queen, the Barons Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning, upon the departure of Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy and the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy for Botswana and bade farewell to Her Royal Highness on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 14: The Prince Edward, Chairman, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Special Projects Group, this morning visited the Belfast Activity Centre, Finaghy Road South, where His Royal Highness toured the centre, met the staff and made a presentation to the retiring Youth Advisor, Mr Noel Heaney.

The Prince Edward was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of County Antrim (the Lord O'Neill).

His Royal Highness afterwards viewed outdoor activities demonstrated by young people who were from the Belfast Activity Centre in the grounds of Malone House and Barmal Park, Belfast.

The Prince Edward later visited the Killybegs Sailing Centre, Killybegs, met members of staff and viewed the premises and a boat house area before viewing sailing on Strangford Lough.

His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of County Down (Colonel William Brownlow).

The Baronsess Denton of Wakefield (Parliamentary Secretary of State, Northern Ireland Office) and Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer were in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 14: The Princess Royal, accompanied by Captain Timothy

Laurence RN, this evening attended the Royal Naval Association Diamond Jubilee Reunion at the Royal Albert Hall, London SW7.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 14: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, was present this evening at the Midas Ball held in aid of the Society's Berkshire Appeal at West Wycombe Park, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

RICHMOND PARK
October 14: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy and attended by Mrs Peter Alfa, this morning left Heathrow Airport, London, to carry out official engagements in Botswana and Senegal.

On arrival at the Airport, Her Royal Highness was received by His Excellency the High Commissioner for Botswana (Mr Alfred U.M. Dube). His Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of Senegal (Mr Gabriel A. Sarr), Sir Roger Harvey (Special Representative of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), and Miss Anita Newcourt (Manager, Special Facilities Heathrow Airport Limited).

At arrival at the Airport, Her Royal Highness was received by His Excellency the High Commissioner for Botswana (Mr Alfred U.M. Dube). His Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of Senegal (Mr Gabriel A. Sarr), Sir Roger Harvey (Special Representative of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), and Miss Anita Newcourt (Manager, Special Facilities Heathrow Airport Limited).

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BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 14: The Princess Royal, accompanied by Captain Timothy



Lord Home's coffin is carried through the churchyard at Coldstream on Saturday

Lord Home laid to rest in Border country he loved

LORD HOME of the Hirsel, who died aged 92 a week ago, was buried in the Border country he loved so well on Saturday.

The former Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Lords was laid to rest in the cemetery at Lennel after a service attended by family and friends at the small sandstone church of St Mary and All Souls by the banks of the Tweed in the village of Coldstream. Lord Home was buried beside the

ashes of his wife, Elizabeth, who died in 1990.

Inside the church, the scent of lilies permeated the air. They were arranged by his daughter, Meriel, and his granddaughter, Iona. In 1964, while he was Prime Minister, Lord Home had personally arranged the flowers for the same daughter's wedding in the church.

Among the many wreaths

outside was one from the Prime Minister and his wife which read: "With our remembrance and thanks".

Others were from those who knew him closer to home: Hirsel Golf Club, Coldstream Community Council and craft workers from the estate. The service was conducted by the Bishop of Edinburgh, the Right Rev Richard Holloway, and the parish

priest, the Rev Gordon Tams. Lord Home's eldest daughter, Caroline, read Psalm 121. Also included was his favourite psalm, *The Lord's My Shepherd*, and the Eynmouth Fishermen's Choir sang the original words to *London-derry Air*. "I would be humble, for I know my weakness, I would look up and laugh and love and live."

Over Lord Home's grave, the bishop gave the final reading: "May peace be yours this day and the beautiful city your home."

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as President of the Animal Health Trust, will attend the annual equestrian awards ceremony at Grosvenor House at 12.30; as Chancellor of London University will attend the opening of the Mahanaka/IC Design Laboratory, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, at Imperial College, SW7, at 3.00; and, as Patron of the National Autistic Society, will attend a dinner at British Telecom Headquarters, EC1, at 6.30.

The Duchess of Gloucester will be received as an honorary court member by the Masons' Company and attend a court luncheon at the Masons' Hall at 12.40.

The Duchess of Gloucester will visit St Christopher's Fellowship at 30 Belmont Hill, SE13, at 3.00. The Duke of Kent will attend a reception given by Canning House at Painters' Hall at 6.00.

The Duchess of Kent will present the Guardian Jerwood Award at Ironmongers' Hall at 12.30.

School news

Farnborough Hill
The Governors of Farnborough Hill are pleased to announce the appointment of Rita McGeech, MA, M Lit, as Headmistress of the School in succession to Sister Elizabeth McCormack who is retiring. Rita McGeech is currently Deputy Headmistress of St Leonards-Mayfield and she will take up her new duties in September 1996.

Service lunches

Royal Indian Navy (1612-1947) Association
Lieutenant-Commander E.M. Shaw, President of the Royal Indian Navy (1612-1947) Association, presided at the annual service lunch held on Saturday at The Merchant Navy Hotel, London.

Royal Inshore Fisheries and Fisheries
Brigadier W.J. Hiles presided at the annual London luncheon of the Royal Inshore Fisheries and Fisheries Association at the Grosvenor Hotel, London, on Saturday at the Queen's Club.

St Anne's College, Oxford
The 75th Anniversary of the admission of women to degrees by Oxford University was marked by a discussion and dinner at St Anne's College, Oxford, on Saturday, October 14. Mrs Gillian Shepherd, MP, was in the chair and speakers included Baroness Castle of Blackburn, Dame Anne McLaren, FRS, Ms Liz Forgan, Dr Marilyn Butler and the Hon Gerard Noel (Senior Research Fellow, St Anne's College). Mrs Ruth Dool, Principal of St Anne's, presided.

London Chamber of Commerce and Industry
The London Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Annual Dinner will be held on Tuesday, October 24, at Guildhall. The guest speaker will be Mr. John Riddick, QC, Foreign Secretary. Tickets available, contact Ian Weatherhead, 0171-203 1877.

Service dinners

22nd (Cheshire) Regiment
Brigadier A.J. MacG. Percival, Colonel The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment, presided at the annual regimental officers' association dinner held on Saturday in the Town Hall, Chester. The Deputy Lord Mayor of Chester and Major General L.L. Freer, Colonel Commander, Prince of Wales's Division, attended.

Tay Division Naval Volunteer Reserve
Commander T.R. Woolley, RNR, presided at a dinner given by the Tay Division Naval Volunteer Reserve Association at the Royal Yacht Club on Saturday to mark the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Camperdown.

The Bishop of St Andrews proposed the toast to the immortal memory of Admiral Adam Durrant, Captain James Crawford, a descendant of the admiral, also spoke.

Cambridge University Air Squadron
The Cambridge University Air Squadron 70th Anniversary Dinner was held in the Officers' Mess, Duxford, on Saturday. The principal guest was the Right Honourable the Viscount Trenchard.



Young male tawny owls are hooting noisily

Nature notes

ROOKS are abandoning their rookeries and beginning to spend the night in crowded communal roosts in dense woods. On autumn mornings they often perform acrobatics in the air, diving, dropping and suddenly wheeling. Pied wagtails are also roosting together in ivy and laurel bushes, sometimes in city centres: they come with dipping flight from all directions in the evening.

Tawny owls are hooting noisily as the young males try to establish their first territories. A few red-eyed vireos have been reported in the West of England: they are small green warblers with a conspicuous white eyestripe that

breed on the east side of America. The warm weather has kept many wildflowers in bloom. The lilac punctuations of field scabious are still quite common, and among the dappled seedheads of greater knapweed there are lingering purple blossoms. Black horseweed and buttercup can both be found on the roadsides. The bright blue stoats are abundant this year on blackthorn twigs, but where the bloom has rubbed off there are black patches.

Monarch butterflies have been appearing on the South Coast: they have handsome orange and black wings, and have probably blown in from the Canaries. DJM

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: King James II of Scotland, reigned 1437-60. Holyrood, 1430; Albrecht Von Haller, botanist, anatomist and poet, Bern, 1708; Noah Webster, lexicographer, Hartford, Connecticut, 1758; Robert Stephenson, civil engineer, Wellington Quay, Northumberland, 1801; David Ben-Gurion, first Prime Minister of Israel 1948-53 and 1955-63, Ploresk, Poland, 1886; Eugene O'Neill, dramatist, New York, 1898; Erwin Hordva, Albanian leader 1944-48, Gjodine, 1901; Luca Signorelli, painter, Cortona, Italy, 1503; Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley, Bishops, Protestant reformers, burnt at the stake, Oxford, 1555; Akbar I, the Great, Mogul Emperor of India 1556-60, Agra, 1605; Ralph Thoresby, antiquary, 1702; Robert Fergusson, poet, Edinburgh, 1726; Marie Antoinette, Queen of France, guillotined, Paris, 1793; John Hunter, anatomist and surgeon, London, 1793; Joseph Strutt, antiquary, London, 1802; Henry Martyn, missionary, Tokat, Turkey, 1812; Sir Granville Bantock, composer, London, 1946; Liaquat Ali Khan, first Prime Minister of Pakistan 1947-51, assassinated, Rawalpindi, West Punjab, 1951; George Marshall, former US Secretary of State, Washington, 1959. The House of Commons was burnt down, 1834.

Birthdays today

Mr Peter Bowles, actor, 59; Dr Stefan Bucur, biologist, broadcaster and author, 58; Mr Alan Byrnes, entertainer, 73; Miss Alison Chitty, theatre designer, 47; Mr David Congdon, MP, 46; Mr Michael Forsyth, MP, 44; Mr Paul Gallagher, trade unionist, St. Mirin, Glasgow, 68; Mr J.W. MacLennan, former MP, 65; Mr W.W. Grave, former Master, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, 94; Mr Terry Griffiths, snooker player, 48.

Miss Angela Lansbury, actress, 70; Sir Peter Large, chairman, Joint Committee on Mobility for Disabled People, 64; Lord Macdonald of Gwensyn, 80; Lord MacLachlan of Beoch, 78; Mr Stuart MacLeod, fashion designer, 36; Mr Hugh MacMillan, Chief Constable, Northern Constabulary, 61; Mr J.W. MacLennan, former MP, 65; Mr W.W. Grave, former Master, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, 94; Mr Terry Griffiths, snooker player, 48.

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Marriages

Colonel J. Lench and Mrs F.C.E. Fick
The marriage has taken place in London, on Saturday, October 14, between Colonel John Lench, CBE, and Mrs Fiona Fick. A family reception was held at Waterman's Hall.

Mr P. Myrnes and Miss A.L. Macleod
A service of blessing was held on Saturday, October 14, at Mawman Parish Church, Mawman, Smith, Cornwall, after the marriage on Tuesday, October 3, at Kensington and Chelsea Register Office, of Mr Paul Myrnes and Miss Alison Macleod.

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OBITUARIES

ELLIS PETERS

Ellis Peters, mystery writer, died in Shropshire on October 15, aged 82. She was born on September 20, 1913.

EDITH PARGETER was already established as a novelist before she started writing mystery stories under the pen name Ellis Peters. But she achieved spectacular success when, at the age of 64, she combined detective and historical fiction in gripping tales of medieval murder and mystery. In her cowed sleuth, Brother Cadfael, a Benedictine monk at Shrewsbury Abbey, she created a character whose wry wisdom and moral outlook were entirely his own. It is unusual for so deeply humane a personality to be so powerfully drawn, and perhaps this is where Pargeter's uniqueness lay. Villains, she admitted, were not her strong point: the good interested her much more. Though she remained throughout her life an intensely private and modest person, Pargeter earned royalties from her books and television rights equivalent to those of such bestselling authors as Jilly Cooper or Joanna Trollope.

Edith Mary Pargeter was born at Horsehay in Shropshire. Her father was a clerk at an ironworks. Her mother was an amateur antiquarian, keenly interested in local history and in the birds, animals and plants of the surrounding countryside. Knowledge which she passed on to her children. Pargeter recalled being taken on tours of the district to see the castles and, most especially, the abbey. She imbibed her mother's deep affection for the area and for the rest of her life was always to live within three miles of her birthplace, sharing a strangely incongruous modern house with her brother, until he died in 1985.

She disliked all cities, except Prague which she visited repeatedly, and she also travelled widely in Western Europe and India, always making good literary use of these journeys.

Pargeter was educated at Dawley Church of England School and the Coalbrookdale High School for Girls. She showed an early interest in writing and by the age of 12 had started her first novel, which she sent to the publishers William Heinemann. Although they did not publish it, they asked to see all her later work. She was known by her teachers as "the girl who never stops writing".

When she finished school she took a job as a dispenser in a chemist's shop. There, like the young Agatha Christie, she acquired valuable information about poisons and their effects. With the outbreak of the Second World War Pargeter enlisted in the WRNS, serving in the communica-



tions department of the Western Approaches Command, first in Devonport and then in Liverpool. She plotted ship-movements from a teleprinter throughout the Battle of the Atlantic and was on duty taking details of the sinking of the *Bismarck*. Though with characteristic modesty she described herself as "the world's worst teleprinter operator", she was awarded the British Empire Medal for her devotion to duty, receiving it from King George VI at a morning investiture on VE-Day. She was demobilised as a petty officer on V-Day.

Her first printed work, *Horatius*, *Friend of Nero*, a tale of Christian martyrdom, was written in the evenings after her day in the chemist's shop. Published in 1936, it failed to make its mark. She followed it up, though, with *The City Lies Four-square* (1939), a book which was to establish her reputation and give her the confidence to pursue her career as an author.

Throughout the war, even while in uniform, Pargeter continued to write, drawing on her experience in the WRNS for *She Goes to War* published in 1942.

It was when she embarked on a trilogy about a soldier's life with *The Eighth Champion of Christendom* (1945) that she turned to writing full-time. This trilogy, and other novels such as *The Soldier at the Door*

(1954), an attack on conscription, earned Pargeter a considerable reputation as "one of the few contemporary British novelists dealing with serious issues".

However, perhaps more significant was her *Heaven Tree* trilogy, which she considered her finest body of work and into which she introduced many of the themes she was later to develop. Set in the 12th century it told the moving tale of a dangerous friendship between a nobleman and a peasant boy, set against the backdrop of the construction of a great castle and church on the Welsh border.

A deeply sensitive and perceptive woman, Pargeter was moved in 1938 by what she called "the shock and shame of Munich" and, having been impressed by the Czech servicemen whom she had met during the war, she seized the opportunity of attending a summer school in Czechoslovakia in 1947. Thereafter she made annual visits to the country, except for a short period when visas were impossible to obtain. She learnt the language and, starting with a volume of short stories by Jan Neruda, translated a number of Czech books into English, including Bohumil Hrabal's *A Close Watch on the Trains*, from which a celebrated film was later to be made.

She also set one of her own novels, *The Piper in the Mountain* (1966)

against the backdrop of Czechoslovakia. In 1968, during the brief "Prague Spring", she was awarded the Gold Medal of the Czechoslovak Society for Foreign Relations for her services to Czech literature.

It was while she was visiting Prague that Pargeter met an Indian diplomat who persuaded her to extend her travels further. She visited the sub-continent and, enthralled, set two of her detective stories there: *Mourning Raga* (1970) and *Death to the Landlords* (1966). She also worked with an Indian professor on his translations of Tagore.

Pargeter's first mystery novel, *Fallen into the Pit*, had been published in 1951 under her own name, but wanting to extricate herself from her publishers, Heinemann, whom she considered unsatisfactory, and deciding that her future works in the mystery genre should be easily distinguishable for the reader, she devised the name Ellis Peters. Ellis was her brother's name, Peters was an adaptation of Petra, the daughter of her closest friend in Czechoslovakia. Most of the 16 mystery novels which she wrote over the next 15 years featured a police detective, George Felse, Bunty his wife and their alert son Dominic. Plots and backgrounds varied widely, but the characters as they gradually aged and developed were consistently convincing and this series of romantic thrillers brought her a wide readership.

Mystery stories had become the major part of Pargeter's output. She argued that they were not really very different from any other type of novel, but what intrigued her was the challenge of creating rounded characters while concealing motives which, when finally revealed, were plausible.

In 1977 Pargeter wrote a story which she had long contemplated. *A Morbid Taste for Bones* was based on an episode in a book about the history of Shrewsbury which she had bought as a schoolgirl. In the 12th century, a group of monks from the abbey had set out in search of St Winifred's bones, and it occurred to Pargeter that an ingenious murderer could successfully conceal the bones of his victim in a reliquary, mingled with more venerable remains. The ecclesiastical setting and medieval period were already old favourites. The investigator, Pargeter decided, should be a monk, but a monk with secular experience of life. And so Brother Cadfael was born, a sinful crusader turned monk at the age of 53, and now the abbey's herbalist. The name was borrowed from a Welsh saint.

The book, subtitled "A Medieval Whodunnit", captured the popular imagination. Pargeter had not in-

tended it to inaugurate a series, but then another idea occurred to her. After the siege of Shrewsbury, 94 men had been hanged and their bodies thrown into a ditch. Might a murderer not have added a ninety-fifth corpse? And might a monk in the course of his religious duties among the dead not have discovered the mysterious addition? This idea became Brother Cadfael's second case in *One Corpse Too Many* (1979), and the series was in effect launched - to the exclusion, soon, of any other writing by Pargeter. The stories moved, with considerable historical accuracy, through the seasons and years. Although the incidents differed according to the changing politics and problems of a turbulent period, there was a consistent pattern in which Cadfael comes to the aid of young lovers ensnared by a crime involving visitors to the abbey.

Pargeter was attracted by the 12th century because, despite the turmoil, she saw it as an optimistic period, an age of relatively simple faith in which everyone acted according to their allotted position in society. Even the weather, according to records, was better than that of the following century.

Writing the Cadfael books, Pargeter said, gave her more pleasure than anything else in her working life. She was pleased to have interested so many people in the history of Shrewsbury and to have so greatly helped the abbey restoration fund. She felt that she herself had become a part of that ancient Christian community and she enjoyed the fan mail which she received from clergymen, historians, and even students at the Vatican. But she was irritated when a publisher described her work as "in the tradition of *The Name of the Rose*". She had been writing medieval mystery stories long before Umberto Eco and, moreover, she considered his work to be "intellectually snobbish".

Pargeter received a Mystery Writers of America award, and the Silver Dagger of the British Crime Writers' Association. She was also proud of a letter from Cyril Clemens appointing her as "Daughter of Mark Twain". Her prose style was direct, even a little stilted, matching a self-conscious personality. But she believed herself to have a gift for friendship. "I have loved somebody," she once said, referring to Petra's father in Czechoslovakia whose photograph always remained upon her mantelpiece, "without in the least wanting to get married or have physical relations, for about 40 years now." She believed that an intensely creative life would be curtailed by domestic commitments. But she had a great affection for her territories.

She remained unmarried.

KUKKRIT PRAMOJ

Kukkrít Pramoj, Prime Minister of Thailand 1975-76, died on October 9, aged 84. He was born on April 20, 1911.

KUKKRIT PRAMOJ was the Prime Minister who deftly steered Thailand through the turbulent mid-1970s, when Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam fell to communism, and who kept the ideal of democracy in his country, in however compromised a state, alive. Yet at the end of his long political career he was widely considered that he would be better remembered as a writer than as a politician. Several of his books became modern classics in Thailand, including the novel *Four Reigns* about the era of absolute monarchy in that country.

Kukkrít's untidy offices at the newspaper premises of *Siam Rath* became an almost obligatory place of pilgrimage for visiting journalists, and those resident in the country who wished to hear an intelligent, indigenous view on the subject of Vietnam and Cambodia. But Kukkrít was interested in more than politics. He could talk very knowledgeably about Thai theatre, and wittily about the personalities he met at foreign congresses.

Kukkrít Pramoj was related to the Royal Family of Thailand and was thus given the title of Mom Rachawongse. His father sent him to England at the age of 14, and he later went to Queen's College, Oxford, where he took a first in PPE, and gained a reputation for being a strong debater. He returned to Bangkok in 1933, shortly after the revolution that had ended absolute monarchy, and joined the Bank of Thailand as secretary to the British adviser.

When his boss resigned as a matter of principle, over his objections to corrupt practices among the local police force, Kukkrít resigned with him. There then followed a curious professional hiatus for the man who became known as Thailand's leading journalist and speaker. He became manager of a branch of a bank in Lampang, in northern Thailand, built a house there and became expert in the local dialect.

After the war, in which he supported the Government's decision to co-operate with the Japanese occupying forces, he

entered politics, and was elected as a Bangkok MP.

However, the military regime of Field Marshal Pibul Songgram, 1947-57, and the following years of a military junta had the effect of removing Kukkrít from the political front line, and he had little to do directly with politics again until the early 1970s.

An uprising in 1973 led by students brought about the end of the military dictatorship. This was the moment Kukkrít had been waiting for, and he was swiftly drawn back into the forefront of political debate. He became Speaker of the House and helped to draft a new constitution. He then started his own political party, Social Action. His brother Seni - a less able politician - was Prime Minister of a short-lived Government, but this failed, and in March 1975 Kukkrít became Thailand's new Prime Minister.

With Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam falling under communist control, it became essential for Kukkrít to negotiate some kind of settlement for Thailand, which would guarantee the independence of his country. He did so deftly during his 15 months in office. He negotiated the swift withdrawal of American forces, in order to avoid provoking a communist takeover. He also established diplomatic relations with China, and made the first visit to Peking by a Thai head of government since the communist takeover.

Despite the success of these measures he was brought down in early 1976 for a variety of reasons: bickering among his coalition partners; his attempts to press corruption charges against some army officers; and, perhaps most damagingly, his proposal that rice prices in Bangkok be increased, in order to safeguard the incomes of peasants in the country. His brother Seni, again briefly, returned as Prime Minister.

Although his own period as Prime Minister had also been short, Kukkrít now enjoyed an Indian summer to his political career as a much respected elder statesman figure, who continued to lead his party in coalition governments into the 1980s.

He was married to Pakpring Thongyai, and they had a son and a daughter.

CHRISTOPHER KEENE



Christopher Keene, conductor and music director, died in New York on October 8 from an AIDS-related illness aged 48. He was born in Berkeley, California, on December 21, 1946.

THE AIDS virus has taken a heavy toll in New York and nowhere more so than in the ranks of the New York City Opera. Over the last decade the company has lost dozens of its members, two administrators and now its general director since 1989, Christopher Keene.

While his "big sister", the Metropolitan Opera at the Lincoln Centre, delivers lavish, big-budget productions, the New York City Opera under Keene concentrated on bolstering the staple diet of standard musical fare, adding pioneering masterpieces of the 20th century, such as this autumn's production of Paul Hindemith's *Mathis der*

Maler. In his 25-year association with the company Keene had to his credit many other United States and world premieres. He also proved himself an effective, enthusiastic administrator.

Yet the relationship was not always easy. In 1986 he resigned his position as music director before his contract expired and, shortly after he was appointed general director three years later, all of the company's musicians went on strike. In 1993 (the company's 50th anniversary season), while Keene was being treated for alcoholism at the Betty Ford Centre, the board forced him to surrender many of his administrative responsibilities to an executive director. Artistically Keene was no stranger to controversy either. His staging of *La Traviata* was set in the era of AIDS and his 1993 *Madam Butterfly* was the New York premiere of the original 1904 version - far harsher than the tender, romantic tragedy more often seen. But whatever the turbulence, he was in no doubt as to how much he owed to the organisation to which he devoted the major part of his working life. "I credit the City Opera with allowing me to have the wonderful career I've had."

By the time he got to high school, Keene was an accomplished cellist and pianist. Claiming, with typical braggadocio, to know all there was to be known about music, he

decided to major in history while at the University of California at Berkeley. However, much of his student energies were devoted to staging operas. At the age of 18 he toured Britain's *Rape of Lucretia* and premiered Henze's *Elegy for Young Lovers*.

While he possessed prodigious talent, Keene initially lacked experience. That was rectified when in 1966 Kurt Herbert Adler, general director of the San Francisco Opera, made him an assistant conductor. His association with the NYCO began in 1969 as the recipient of the first Julius Rudel Award, granted to a young American operatic professional for developing administrative and managerial skills. His conducting debut with them the following year was Giner's *Don Rodrigo*.

Keene's meteoric rise continued in 1971, after he appeared at the Met conducting *Cavalleria rusticana* and *Pagliacci*. Covent Garden brought him to England in 1973 for *Madam Butterfly*; and the following year he conducted a Ring cycle at the Artpark festival in Lewiston, New York. Gian Carlo Menotti also noticed his talents and first invited Keene to his Festival of the Two Worlds in Spoleto, Italy, in 1968. Subsequently he appointed him music director, 1972-76, before allowing him to take the festival to the United States between 1977 and 1980.

While his operatic skills were remarkable (he conducted more than fifty different works in his 25 years with the NYCO), Keene was also a musical polymath never content with being in one place at one time. He founded the Long Island Philharmonic Orchestra in 1979 and remained there until 1990 starting, shocking and delighting his audiences with a succession of musical rarities. He was also musical director of the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, 1975-84. Recently Keene restated his intention to stay with the NYCO until the millennium, when he intended to devote more of his time once again to the concert platform.

Keene was a man full of energy and a zest for life. In a recent interview he said: "I had a combination of talents and a compulsive voracious personality that was never happy unless there were 15 balls in the air at once." There was some truth to the boast. In 1971 he found the energy to conduct four operas in two days divided between the Met and the NYCO. Another time, when conducting the Long Island Philharmonic, the bus carrying the musicians to their concert got lost. During the 90-minute delay Keene regaled a rapt audience with a stream of musical anecdotes.

Keene's longtime lover Tom Forsythe died of an AIDS-related illness in 1993. He is survived by his wife Sara, two sons and his recent companion, Michael Brandon.

ELIZABETH JANE LLOYD

Elizabeth Jane Lloyd, painter, died from a heart attack on October 2 aged 67. She was born on July 14, 1928.

ELIZABETH JANE LLOYD was a striking figure both as a person and as an artist. Tall, fair, generous of spirit, immensely energetic, she had something of the corn goddess about her and stood out in any company. Her hospitality in the lovely 18th-century house on the riverside at Chiswick, which she inherited from her parents, was legendary.

As a painter, despite the burden of a growing family in earlier years and the many outside commitments she cheerfully took on in her later years, she was impressively prolific. Her still lifes and landscapes, shown in nearly 20 solo exhibitions over the years, directly reflected her love of life and light and her vibrant response to the visual beauty she had created around her, to the colour and texture of flowers, domestic objects and crowded, intimate interiors which were her everyday surroundings.

She was born into a family of architects and artists. Her father was a partner in Edwin Lutyens's firm, and Lutyens himself was her godfather. Her grandfather, W. Curtis Green, designed the Dorchester hotel in Park Lane.

She studied painting at Chelsea School of Art from 1946 to 1949, in that period



after the end of the war when a generation of older students just released from the Services intermingled with a lively younger group straight out of school. Successful painters such as Ceri Richards, Robert Medley and Vivian Pitchforth dispensed wisdom, guidance and inspiration. Jeff Hoare, whom she married in 1952, was among her contemporaries, as were Elizabeth Frink and John Berger.

After Chelsea she went on to study at the Royal College of Art for three years under Carol Weight and Ruskin Spear. Although she belonged firmly to the English figurative tradition and was untouched by modernist fashions, she was far from conventional and developed a style which faithfully expressed her personality - bold, sensuous, crisp of

drawing and brilliant of colour, an effective means of translating into images her response to the visual excitement of the world around her.

Her first solo exhibition was in 1953 at the newly built Royal Festival Hall, and thereafter she was a frequent exhibitor at the Royal Academy. Her growing success was reflected not only in the almost annual solo exhibitions which she staged from the late 1950s onwards but also in the many mixed exhibitions in which her work was represented in Britain and abroad and in the many commissions she won for murals and film sets.

Seemingly indefatigable, she managed to combine painting with the burdens of home-making and bringing up a family of four as well as multiple teaching commit-

ments. These included her 30-year association with the Central St. Martin's College of Art and Design, where she had been appointed head of the portfolio preparation course just before she died; her almost equally long involvement with the Yehudi Menuhin School; to say nothing of her teaching responsibilities at the City Literary Institute and, at different times, at schools and universities both here and in the United States.

Yet these time-consuming activities never succeeded in inhibiting her creative energy. In her later years she would hold painting classes at her Chiswick home, and visitors on sunny summer afternoons would find painters of all ages busy behind their easels in her back-garden and in every nook and cranny of her house.

She also took groups of artists to India on painting tours, and the influence of Indian arts and crafts was noticeable in her later works, as it was in the domestic environment she created at Strand-on-the-Green. It was an environment which exerted an irresistible attraction for her vast circle of friends, who relished the much-loved old furniture, the walls covered with paintings, the clutter of pots, pans, old china and cherished objects, the profusion of dried flowers and the warm, well-lived-in atmosphere of an artist's home.

She leaves her husband, three daughters and a son.

Church news

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Nigel Fox, Rector, St Martin's East and West Lane (Truro): to retire October 1.
The Rev Susan Martin, Curate, Copnor St Andrew (Portsmouth): has retired on grounds of ill health.
The Rev Robin Taylor, Rector, Christow, Ashton, Tringham and Riddford (Exeter): to resign November 30.

The Rev David Harding, Chaplain SS Mary & Anne School, Abbots Bromley (Lichfield): retired August 31.

The Rev Nigel Mead, Rector, Tordridge Team Ministry (Exeter): to retire December 31.
The Rev Simon Spinks, Rector, Didsbury w Langmere and Shipmiling, Thelveton and Freze, and Rushall (Norwich): to retire December 31.

Appointments
Mr Roy Westmore and Mr Ken Makins, now Lay Canons Emeriti of Portsmouth Cathedral.

Clergy

Mr Arthur Jones, Mr John Nicholls and Mrs Peg Price to be Lay Canons of Portsmouth Cathedral.
The Rev Alistair Conn, Rector, Collingham w South Searle and Beshorpe w Giron and Spalford: to be also Rural Dean of Newark (Southwell).
The Rev Anna Passey, formerly Curate, The Lylands to be Priest-in-charge, Pophurst, in the parish of Penhill, Swanton (Bristol).
The Rev Giphys Gakuru, permission to officiate, diocese Ely: to be Assistant Curate, St Aidan, St Oswald and St Gregory, Small Heath (Birmingham).
The Rev Barry Green, Vicar, St Anne's, West Heath and Rural Dean of Kings Norton (Birmingham): to be Rector, Dringfield w Holmesfield (Derby).
The Rev Peter Hall, Assistant Curate, St Peter, Bromyard (Hereford): to be Assistant Curate, St Philip, Dorridge (Birmingham).
The Rev John Handley, Priest-in-

Clergy

charge, East w West Harting: Bridgham w Rounham: Lurline: Brettenham and Rushford: to be Rector, East w West Harting: Bridgham w Rounham: Lurline: Brettenham and Rushford (Norwich).
The Rev Canon Brian Lee, Rector, Chiddingfold and East Hoathly (Chichester): to be Chaplain of St John, and St Philip, The Hague, Netherlands (Europe).
The Rev David Lee, Priest-in-charge, Middleton and Wistow: to be Residential Canon of Birmingham Cathedral (Birmingham), succeeding the Right Rev Michael Whimpy who is retiring.
The Rev Jeremy Leppin, Team Vicar, Holy Trinity Ministry (St Wilfrid's, Horley): to be Officer for Evangelism, Crofton Episcopal Area (Southwark).
The Rev John Moore, Assistant Curate (NSM), Godham: to be Associate Priest (NSM), w special

Responsibility for

Bunny w Bradmore (Southwell).
The Rev Keith Newton, Vicar, Holy Trinity, Knowle: to be also Rural Dean of Bristlington (Bristol).
The Rev Dr Michael Peel, Vicar, Linslade (Oxford): to be Warden, St Barnabas College, Linslade (Southwark).
The Rev Trevor Sloan, Priest-in-charge, Keyworth and Stanton-on-the-Wolds: to be also Priest-in-charge, Bunny w Bradmore (Southwell).
The Rev Peter Stone, formerly Chaplain, Cheltenham College (Gloucester): to be Vicar, St Philip Upper Stratton (Bristol).
The Rev John Vickerman, Vicar, St Andrew, Bruncliffe, Morley: to be Vicar, King Cross, Halifax (Wakefield).
The Rev Simon Wakeley, Curate, Wyomondham (Norwich): to be Priest-in-charge, Babbacombe (Exeter).

COLOGNE CATHEDRAL
FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
COLOGNE, OCTOBER 15

The Emperor arrived punctually at 9 this morning from Brühl and was received by all the civil and military authorities at Government House, whence he was to proceed to the Cathedral. At 10 there was Divine service at Trinity Church for the Protestants and mass for the Catholics at the Cathedral, at 11. The Emperor was at the Cathedral at 11.30. At half-past the Emperor was to issue forth from the south door of the Cathedral into the square, which has been encompassed with large and lofty galleries for privileged spectators, and which was to be the principal scene appointed for the ceremony passed of inauguration.

The clouds seemed to cling to the roofs of the houses, but the ceremony passed off without rain. I sat in the tribune, having the Cathedral on my right, and facing the Imperial pavilion, which was at the south-eastern corner of the square. The square, like the whole town, was swathed in its festive drapery, with flags on tall masts overtopping the gables of the quaint houses around. The military was active at an early hour: cavalry and infantry, with the famous White Cuiras

ON THIS DAY

October 16, 1880



The ceremony of the completion of Cologne Cathedral, founded in 1248. One of the finest examples of Gothic architecture, it is built in the form of a cross, 480ft long and 282ft wide.

The Emperor arrived at 12 when the cannon and a peal of bells, with a "Hoch" from the multitude, announced the Emperor's presence. Out he came at the southern door with the Emperor on his left, followed by the King of Saxony and other reigning Princes, by the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany, and

a crowd of minor potentates, Generals, Ministers, and other men of rank, high in military or civil authority, all of whose names have already appeared in *The Times*, and about whom, therefore, it will be sufficient to say that Count Molke was present and Prince Bismarck absent.

The German word "Hoch" - a poor sound between an aspirate and a guttural - is but a wretched substitute for the English "Hurrah," and it was almost stifled by the band and choir which struck up the anthem, "Heil dir in Siegeskronen." The Kaiser and his suite crossed the square to their pavilion, and were soon in their places - a magnificent group of men's uniforms and ladies' Court dresses, set off by the crimson curtains of the pavilion, over which was a large Imperial diadem.

The ceremony began with the reading of the deed referring to the finishing of the building of the Cathedral. The Emperor then sat at a table in front of the pavilion and signed the document, and after him the Empress, the next reigning Princes and Princesses, the Crown Princes and Crown Princesses, the high personages of their suites, the chief architect the President of the Dombauverein, and others - a tedious ceremony which lasted more than an hour.

NEWS

Santer attacks Portillo speech

■ Michael Portillo clashed with the head of the European Commission and nearly a hundred Conservative MPs in a new row over his controversial speech to the party conference.

Jacques Santer condemned the speech as grotesque and deplorable, while the Positive Europe Group prepared to protest to John Major about "over the top" language. But Mr Portillo declared: "Je ne regrette rien".....Page 1

VC hero salutes John Major

■ In the remote Indian village of Palras, Havildar Umrao Singh, VC, stood to attention with a slap of bare feet on dusty concrete and announced with a salute: "For John Major, Prime Minister of Britain." He had just learned that Mr Major was increasing the VC pension of £100 a year to £130. It will make Umrao Singh one of the wealthiest men around.....Page 1

Ban boxing calls

The death of the boxer James Murray in Glasgow has brought renewed calls for a ban on the sport and demands for a Royal Commission inquiry.....Page 1

Judges dispute

Labour's Shadow Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, will attack recent claims by senior judges, including Lord Woolf, that they are more powerful than Parliament.....Page 1

Crash Britons

Five Britons working at a hospital in South Africa were killed on their way for a weekend break in Swaziland when their car collided head-on with a lorry.....Page 1

Guides crisis

The Girl Guides movement is facing a crisis because fewer women are willing to act as group leaders. Working women are too busy to serve as Brown Owl or Guide leader.....Page 5

Winning girls

Girls' schools achieve better exam results than mixed classes whatever the social background of pupils, says unpublished government research.....Page 6

Divorce worry

A third of children worry about their parents splitting up as the sharp rise in divorce rates threatens to destabilise even those families that remain intact, according to a survey today.....Page 8

Divorced vicar preaches defiance

■ A vicar whose services are being boycotted because he angered many in his three parishes by divorcing his wife and marrying his curate, preached defiance to his dwindling congregation and later pledged that he would resist all attempts to remove him. The Rev Royston Such said: "I am entitled to stay until I retire".....Page 3

Library row

Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, and local authorities are facing legal action over their alleged neglect of the nation's libraries.....Page 9

Private doctor plan

Bupa, biggest private health insurer, is to expand into family doctoring, allowing subscribers to obtain private home visits from GPs.....Page 9

March furore

As tens of thousands of black men poured into Washington for today's Million Man March, the organisers, cancelled two television interviews after sparking a new furore over his anti-semitic views.....Page 10

Smell of peace

Anthony Loyd reports from Sanski Most in Bosnia that despite the stench of sweat, cordite and decomposition, he thought he had scented peace.....Page 12

Turkish election

Tansu Ciller, the Turkish Prime Minister, called for an early general election after failing to salvage her struggling Government.....Page 13

Juppé title

Alain Juppé became the neo-Gaullist party's chairman in a symbolic vote that did little to guarantee the political survival of the beleaguered French Prime Minister.....Page 13



Iraqis struggle to get to the ballot box in a poll to confirm Saddam Hussein as president. He is the only candidate. Page 10

BUSINESS

Rail penalty: Railtrack, due for stockmarket flotation next spring, faces having to pay tens of millions of pounds a year in penalty charges to train operators as compensation for rail services that have to run on poor quality track.....Page 44

National Grid: Labour will try to halt next month's flotation after complaining about a shares offer to electricity directors.....Page 44

Asda's medicine: The supermarket is attacking the last bastion of price fixing by cutting the price of some 80 vitamins and supplements by up to 20 per cent.....Page 44

Kingfisher: Sir John Banham, a former director general of the CBI, is to become chairman of the retailing group whose stores include Woolworth and B&Q.....Page 44

FEATURES

Murder legacy: The murder of a young black doctor has led to the Dr Joan Francisco Foundation, designed to help others to enter the professions.....Page 17

Black Skye: Skye is not just an island: it is a Hebridean dream, says Magnus Linklater. Hence the controversy surrounding the new box-girder bridge.....Page 17

Pain relief: A new range of drugs, which has already rejuvenated listless, arthritic dogs, should soon be available to humans, reports Nigel Hawkes.....Page 16

FOCUS

Geared for work: Uniforms for the office are gaining in popularity, according to a report on corporate clothing.....Page 37

Royal Opera triumph: A Ring for our times so says Rodney Milnes. In praise of Richard Jones's anarchic yet intensely serious new production of *Götterdämmerung* for Covent Garden.....Page 14

Jazz jazz: The trumpeter Mark Isham is currently burning incense at the shrine of his chief musical god, Miles Davis.....Page 14

Theatrical success: Benedict Nightingale enjoys Peter Hall's new West End production of Ibsen's difficult play, *The Master Builder*, with Alan Bates in the title role.....Page 15

Lager louts: The world of *Enter Achilles*, DV8 Physical Theatre's new touring show, is an all-male hell where men smash beer glasses and reel out of pubs.....Page 15

IN THE TIMES

ARTS

Royal life in Tudor and Jacobean England comes alive in a show of paintings at the Tate

FOCUS

As the President of Finland makes a state visit, a report on a vital UK export market

Boxing: The death of the young boxer, James Murray, from injuries he received in the ring, and a riot at the venue where he was injured, are blows from which the sport may never recover.....Pages 23, 24

Golf: Ernie Els, of South Africa, won his second successive World Match Play Championship at Wentworth, by defeating Steve Elkington, the American PGA champion.....Page 25

Rugby Union: Bath produced the best club championship display of the season so far to overwhelm local rivals, Bristol.....Page 26

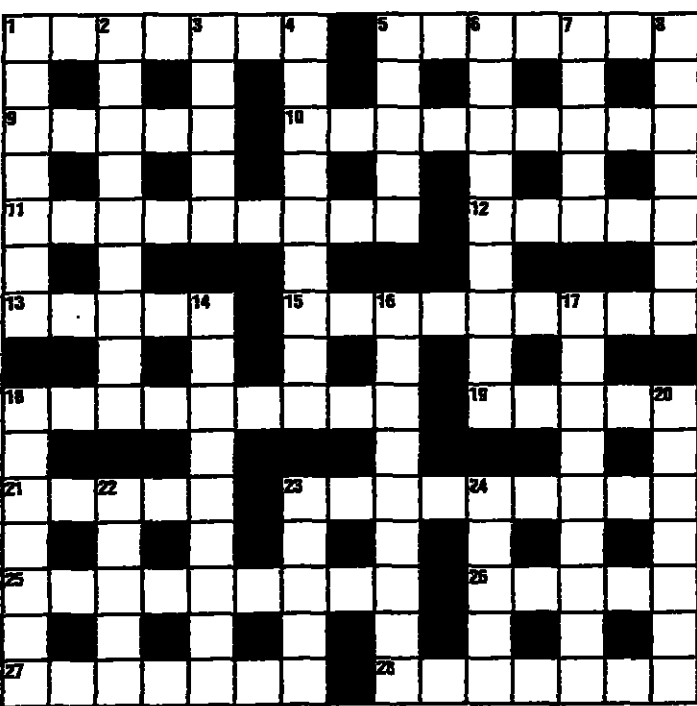
Rugby League: Wales beat Western Samoa 22-10 in the World Cup. In the semi-finals they will meet England who failed to impress on Saturday when they beat South Africa, despite the return of Martin Offiah.....Page 27

Football: Newcastle United produced a spirited and adventurous display to come from behind and defeat Queens Park Rangers to stay on top of the Premiership. Yesterday in the Premiership, a lacklustre Middlesbrough secured victory but clearly need their awaited Brazilian star, Juninho.....Pages 28, 29

Sport for All: A look at the benefits of touring in tandem on a bicycle made for two.....Page 33

4, 5, 9, 25, 30, 47. Bonus: 17.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,987



- ACROSS**
- 1 Significant work done by the banks (7)
 - 5 Get level with — what a sauce! (7)
 - 9 Setback after a number turn awkward (3,2)
 - 10 Prudence and discipline shown in retirement (9)
 - 11 Anticipation of set rate for exchange (9)
 - 12 Letter causing a feeling of irritation (5)
 - 13 Have offspring, so left in a hotel (5)
 - 15 A veteran guru meriting hanging? (3,6)
 - 18 Name minor as lacking chic (9)
 - 19 Start of the folom retreat for cavalry unit (5)
 - 21 A match for a Roman goddess (5)
 - 23 Assembled and set about a woman's followers (9)
- DOWN**
- 25 Fence accepting a high-principled person's counsel (9)
 - 26 The land of song, round the middle of Cambrria (5)
 - 27 Some svelte, lean, or even skinny girl (7)
 - 28 The English reader is such a choosy individual! (7)
 - 1 Deal in used cars (7)
 - 2 By the side of exceptionally alert associate (9)
 - 3 Popular place to feed in (2-3)
 - 4 Spinner maintaining direction unless upset (9)
 - 5 Class let down over English (5)
 - 6 Befuddled man — target for a soulding woman (9)
 - 7 An army holding unit is to move up (5)
 - 8 A vessel not fitted with stabilisers? (7)
 - 14 The face of architects! (9)
 - 16 Shoot the underworld boss — indictment will follow (9)
 - 17 In he trots, drunk and prickly as can be (9)
 - 18 A few in black may be set aside (7)
 - 20 Scientist ended French street uprising (7)
 - 22 A Russian material (5)
 - 23 Roused a bird (5)
 - 24 "O, what a — and peasant slave am I" (Hamlet) (5)



The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,986 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockout, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code:

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Devon & Cornwall	704	Wales, Glamorgan & SW	705
Wiltshire, Dorset & Devon	706	Wiltshire, Dorset & Devon	707
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HIGHEST & LOWEST

GOLF

25

Champion
Els on
course to
dominate
the world

RUGBY LEAGUE

27

Damage
limitation
is order of
the day for
England

SCHOOLS SPORT

31

Keeping
up with
the old
school
ties

ATHLETICS

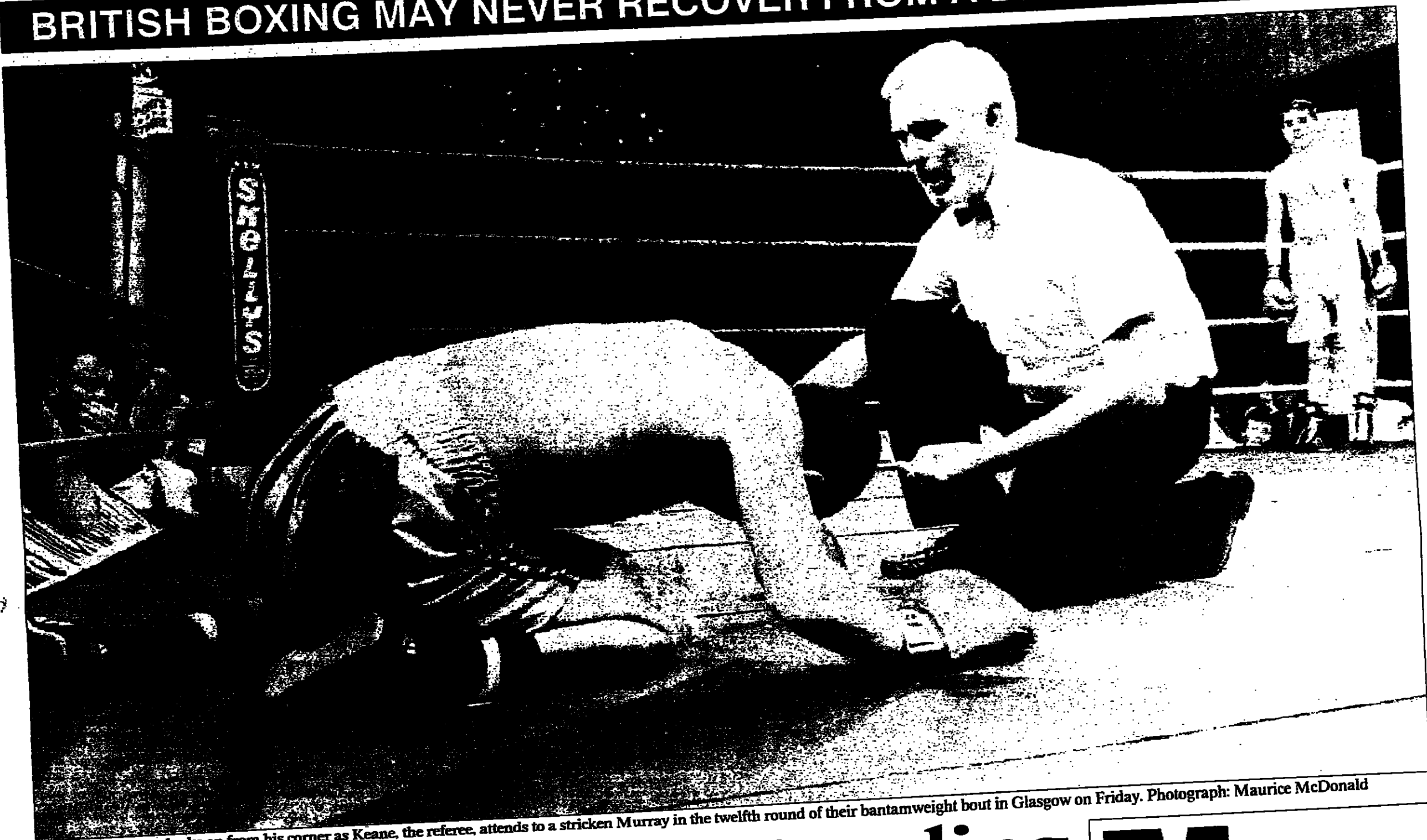
35

McColgan
up and
running
in medal
chase

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY OCTOBER 16 1995

BRITISH BOXING MAY NEVER RECOVER FROM A DEATH AND A RIOT



Docherty looks on from his corner as Keane, the referee, attends to a stricken Murray in the twelfth round of their bantamweight bout in Glasgow on Friday. Photograph: Maurice McDonald

Twin blow has sport reeling

By Sukumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

BRITISH boxing received two blows at the weekend from which it may never recover: a death and a riot. James Murray, the bantamweight from Lanark, died yesterday as a result of head injuries received during his bout with Drew Docherty, of Glasgow, on Friday night. The mayhem that followed the dinner show at the Hospitality Inn, Glasgow, has also stunned promoters and boxing officials.

Murray, 25, had been knocked unconscious in the twelfth round and, despite a two-hour operation at the Southern General Hospital on Friday night, remained in a coma on Saturday. Doctors switched off his life support machine early yesterday.

The British Boxing Board of Control (BBBC) and the police have started inquiries into the riot, which was the most intense seen at a boxing match in Great Britain. Chairs, bottles, glasses and, according to some reports, dinner knives were used as missiles by the rioters, which forced ringsiders to run for cover and impeded medical attention for Murray in the ring.

The blows to boxing were particularly severe because a fatal injury and a riot have not coincided in Britain before. The event was not one that should have resulted in tragedy and chaos. The boxers were evenly matched and neither Murray nor Docherty, the British bantamweight champion, were regarded as having the weight of punch to inflict serious damage. Dinner shows — and there are hundreds in Britain each year — do not expect crowd trouble.

Frank Warren, who promoted the event with Katherine Morrison, said: "It is very difficult to justify boxing when you see terrible injuries like those and the damage it does to families. I could not look Jim's father and mother in the eye and say the sport should go on; but it is a very emotive subject and, at times like this, we should all give it a few days."

Alex Morrison, Murray's manager, said that it was "a terrible end to a memorable fight".

Despicable though the disturbance was, such occurrences can be avoided with adequate security, but the lesson from the whole affair is to realise that boxing is a potentially lethal sport at any level and no number of safety measures will prevent other similar injuries and deaths occurring. The events in Glasgow brought renewed calls for the sport to be banned.



Docherty fells Murray with the final punch of their title bout. Photograph: Sky News/PA

Barry McGuigan, the chairman of the Professional Boxers' Association, said that the sport's administrators must ensure that there are as many safety measures as possible in place. McGuigan made three important points based on his own experience as a former world champion and after talks with other boxers and prominent neurosurgeons.

First, the question of dehydration must be addressed. McGuigan considers the effects of this more crucial even than the blows that cause the actual damage. "I know what weight reduction can do to you," he said yesterday. "I walked around a welterweight and fought at featherweight. I felt drained and listless."

"I'm absolutely certain this is the main cause of trouble. Mark Gault, Gerald McClellan, Rod Douglas and Michael Benn all had weight trouble. It would not surprise me if Murray was struggling to make the weight [8st 6lb]. Most boxers are walking around way heavier than their fighting weight."

"I would like to see the board inspectors make regular visits to gyms to monitor weight reduction. If a fighter is not at a certain weight, he should not be allowed to fight. This is what the South Africans do. The 24 hours a fighter has to recover after the weigh-in is not enough to replenish the body."

McGuigan's second suggestion is to allow doctors to intervene, as they do in the United States. "Doctors should be allowed to play a big part despite the legal ramifications," he said. Someone like Dr. Adrian Whetton [the BBBC's chief medical officer] or Dr. Ray Moncell [another BBBC doctor]. They should be able to stop a fight in conjunction with the referee."

McGuigan's third suggestion is to have a scientific assessment of the composition of the gloves and consider ways of reducing their concussive effect in the ring.

The contest on Friday was not particularly brutal when compared with the bout between Nigel Benn and McClellan in February, which ended with the American boxer in a coma. Both men nevertheless gave their all and Murray appeared to be cruising to victory when he was caught by a jab and a right which landed on the neck. He went down on his hands and knees. As John Keane, the referee, stood over him, the boxer's arms gave way. Doctors were at his side within 30 seconds.

McGuigan's views on dehydration could be correct in this case. Glen McCrory, a Sky television commentator, thought that Murray looked drained when he entered the ring. Since the final blows were not particularly heavy, the damage could have been done earlier in the bout, perhaps around the fifth or sixth rounds when, McGuigan said, the effects of dehydration start to show.

If that is so, at least 20 minutes of the "golden hour" in which hospital attention is required to give a boxer the best possible chance of survival had been lost. Nobody could be held responsible for that, but, if dehydration is the cause of the trouble, the board would do well to make weight reduction their primary concern.

Call for ban, page 1
Dr Stuttaford, page 6
Leading article, page 19
Board probe, page 24

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£20,000	11.9%	£10,000	£121.80	£145.08	£223.84
£30,000	11.9%	£15,000	£182.70	£217.62	£335.76
£40,000	10.5%	£20,000	£243.60	£290.16	£447.68
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Grandstand collision fails to unseat Rider

We could, I suppose, go through the whole satellite versus the terrestrial channels argument again. How that, if you really wanted to enjoy the thrilling climax of the semi-finals from the World Match Play Championship at Wentworth on Saturday, you needed to be watching Eurosport, not BBC1. How that, at the vital moment Constantino Rocco finally conceded defeat to Steve Elkington on the satellite channel's specially extended live coverage, *Grandstand* viewers were midway through the Scottish football results.

I could go on, but I won't. So soon after the Ryder Cup, it's a case of been there, done it, got the odd letter of complaint. So instead, let us stay within the strict confines of BBC schedules and pay tribute to Steve Rider, who needed to call on



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

Friday afternoon, when the problem faced was the very opposite — too much progress. With a four-hour programme starting as the first match between Els and Janzen reached the ninth for the second time, it must have been very tempting for executive producer John Shrewsbury to rewind the tape and begin on the first hole. But bravely and rightly, he decided to show it as they played it — even if that did leave an hour and a half to fill at the end. Dougie Donnelly rose magnificently to the

challenge, interviewing anyone who moved until relief came in the form of first round highlights.

Given such unpromising precedents, it was probably inevitable that 4.45pm on Saturday, the most important moment of the winter sporting week, would arrive with neither of the semi-finals resolved. The panic was palpable. Suddenly the merry banter of Peter Alliss, Alex Hay and Dave Marr was silenced. Suddenly, the picture of Bernhard Langer settling

for the umpteenth time over a putt shrank to make way for the football results arriving below. "We'll do our best to keep everyone happy," began Rider, knowing full well that he had just accepted Mission Impossible.

It may have been horrible to watch, but Rider succeeded brilliantly — almost. Des Lynam would have given up ("Oh, read them yourselves"); Sue Barker would have retired in terminal confusion. But not the unflappable Rider. As others wrestled with the schedule-busting prospect of extra holes (I swear I heard cheers as Langer missed his putt at the 18th), Rider switched calmly between the football and the golf, making his own judgement of which was more important. "A big putt for Els," murmured Rider, as "Man Utd 1: Man City 0"

flashed by on the teleprinter below.

One alternative, it occurred to me, would have been to ask Alliss to read the football results, but on his weekend form that could have taken longer than 18 holes with Langer. "East Fife 0: Clyde 0 — now that reminds me of my old friend Jack McTock, the old greenkeeper at St Andrews. Lovely man, but he's been a bit poorly recently, so if you're watching in Stirling Hospital, Jack..."

Better still might have been Dave Marr, who once you had gotten reacquainted with his good of Southern drawl, proved very entertaining company. "Aston Villa 0: Chelsea, yessiree, 1 — way to go, Round." On second thoughts, the BBC was right the first time. In a sporting crisis, Steve Rider is definitely the man.

Srikumar Sen on the ramifications of a tragic night for British boxing

Shocked Board to probe into violence

IT IS NOT surprising that the British Boxing Board of Control (BBBC) and the promoters of the British bantamweight title bout between James Murray and Drew Docherty were caught off guard when a riot erupted after Murray's defeat in the twelfth round in Glasgow on Friday night.

Crowd trouble at boxing matches is not, as some may think, a common occurrence. There have been only six cases of disturbances in the past ten years, four of which have been of a serious nature. In 1988, CS gas was released into the crowd by hooligans at Tony Sibson's bout against Frank Tate in Stafford, and in 1994, Robert McCracken's followers twice rioted — at Watford and the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. The events at the Hospitality Inn in Glasgow were probably the worst, as a dinner show has never seen trouble of any kind.

While much has been made of local and religious rivalry between the boxers after the event, neither Frank Warren and Katherine Morrison, the promoters, nor the BBBC can be held responsible for not

THE CROWD

anticipating trouble. Mike Goodall, the master of ceremonies, whose voice was the only one of reason that could be heard above the din of mob violence, believed that the troublemakers were not boxing fans but football hooligans. Goodall said: "It was football chanting all through. They weren't cheering their man on. All they were doing was chanting obscene football chants."

I didn't think it was as bad as the trouble at the NEC after the McCracken-Foster fight, but that was a bigger hall and there were a lot more fans having a go in there. It was still horrific. You had a boxer having treatment in the ring and they were fighting between themselves. It was mindless.

"They were throwing bottles and chairs and there were full bottles lying around as well. When they hit, they hurt. Certain sections of the hooli-



Mayhem erupts in the crowd as chairs and bottles are thrown while James Murray, the young boxer, lies close to death in the ring

gans reacted. A bottle was thrown and away it all went. It wasn't a boxing crowd."

The BBBC has requested reports from their representatives at the bout. John Morris, the secretary of the board, who was at ringside, said: "So far as crowd trouble is concerned, we are setting up an inquiry as soon as possible. The behaviour of the crowd in one section of the hall was disgusting. I think these are boxing

supporters we don't want. I suspect a hooligan element was in attendance just for this occasion. What happened was a disgrace.

"Our doctors and paramedics did a wonderful job to remove Murray to the hospital so quickly and so efficiently despite the chaotic atmosphere. Everyone who was there from the board has been asked to supply a written statement."

Warren said: "I was told there would be 20 security personnel and with an attendance of 500-550 this was twice the amount of security required for the number of people in the hall. In keeping with the guidelines set out by the local council, it is rare to have trouble at a dinner show. I have run half-a-dozen dinner shows in Scotland and never had trouble."

Mickey Duff, who has staged hundreds of dinner shows in the past 30 years, said that he could not recall any problems. From Duff's reading of the commotion, it is clear that the troublemakers were about 200 non-diners allowed in at £20 a ticket, and who had been drinking before coming into the dining room.

"They were at the back of the hall and they had no problem diving in and grabbing bottles and chairs," Duff said. "For people to say dinner shows will have to have policemen from now on is rubbish. I have always said the best policeman is the dinner suit. Put the biggest slob in a dinner suit and somehow he knows he has to behave."

Pressure mounts for ban

THE men in charge of boxing are battling desperately to save the sport from being banned. After the death of James Murray yesterday, even Frank Warren, one of the leading British promoters, admitted that at times like these he found it hard to justify the sport.

The anti-boxing lobby was quick to state its case again. The British Medical Association repeated its cry: "How many boxers have to suffer serious brain damage before our call for a ban on boxing is heeded? The medical evidence against boxing is overwhelming. Doctors will continue to warn of the dangers, but it is for society to decide whether it will continue to tolerate the continuing tragic waste of young lives in the name of sport."

Once again, too, the pro-boxing group pointed to other sports that have more fatalities and injuries. Harry Greenaway, MP, the chairman of the all-party parliamentary Friends of Boxing, rejected the call for the abolition of boxing. "It is important to remember that more people died mountain climbing in the Cairngorms last winter than have died in boxing in the last 50 years, yet no one urges that mountain climbing should be made illegal," Greenaway said.

His argument does not impress, as mountaineers do not set out to expose themselves to injury but simply to conquer. There can be no getting away from the fact that the aim in

boxing is to hurt and/or disable your opponent, even to the point of leaving him unconscious on the floor. The problems of boxing are the sport's responsibility. It is no use pointing fingers at other risky human activities such as climbing mountains or crossing the street.

The argument that banning boxing would only drive it underground does not hold water either. A parliamentary ban would mean the loss of television revenue for the sport, which would result in boxers fighting for nothing in hole-in-the-corner rings; rather it would lead to a mass exodus of boxers to the United States.

All boxing administrators

can do is look to their own sport and make it as safe as possible. Since the Marquis of Queensberry rules were formed, in 1864, 500 boxers have died; not a great number when compared with other human activities, but as boxers become fitter and stronger with help from sports medicine, the dangers appear to be increasing.

It is time for the boxing authorities to see that all venues, large and small, have doctors and ambulances on hand. At present, some of the smaller shows cannot afford the full complement of two doctors, an anaesthetist and ambulances and their team of

paramedics. The event on Friday was fully staffed.

Barry McGuigan's three suggestions: tackling the problems of dehydration, evaluating scientifically the destructive composition of gloves and giving powers to ringside doctors to intervene, should be considered by the British Boxing Board of Control. If a doctor was empowered to make a decision, a heavy burden would be lifted off the referee, and John Keane, the referee on Friday, might not have found himself once again involved in a tragic bout. He was also in charge of the Bradley Stone-Richie Wenton contest last year, after which Stone died.

Even though bigger gloves might prevent a boxer from delivering a knockout punch in the later rounds when an opponent is nearing exhaustion and at his most vulnerable, McGuigan said that it could mean a boxer having to take more blows as there would be fewer knockouts. A quick knockout could turn out to be better than a continuous pounding for 12 rounds. The board should also consider the possibility of reducing championship bouts to ten rounds.

Adrian Whitson, the board's chief medical officer, said yesterday that the board would be announcing new guidelines within a month. "We have been looking at ways of making the sport as safe as possible — although it can never be 100 per cent safe," Whitson said.

Biela finishes fast to lift World Cup

FRANK BIELA, of Germany, pipped Steve Soper, the British driver, to the FIA touring car World Cup title at the Paul Ricard circuit near Marseilles in the South of France yesterday. Biela, in an Audi A4, led the top 40 drivers from racing saloon car championships around the world to take victory ahead of Soper in the first of two 100-kilometre races.

The demanding La Castellet circuit, with its long straights and tight corners that generate rapid tyre wear, favoured the four-wheel-drive Audis, and Emanuele Pirro, in a similar car, won the second race. Biela overtook Soper in second place with three laps remaining to secure the title.

Oliver Gavin, from Bedford, won the British Formula Three championship in the final round of the series at Thruxton, Hampshire, yesterday. Third place for Gavin was enough to guarantee him the title ahead of Ralph Firman, the early championship leader, who was seventh.

Pienaar switches to No 8

RUGBY UNION: Francois Pienaar, who led South Africa to the World Cup in June, will switch from the flank to No 8 for the matches against England and Italy next month. The team, named yesterday after Natal's 25-17 win over Western Province in the Currie Cup final in Durban, shows three changes from the side that beat Wales last month: Chester Williams is restored to the wing; Tommie Laubscher returns at prop and Fritz van Heerden to the back row.

SCOTT ARTHUR: A. Anderson, J. Smith, J. Hogg, J. Ross, C. Williams, J. Strachan, J. van der Westhuizen, S. Stewart, J. Doolan, T. Laubscher, B. Kruger, J. Wiese, M. Andrews, F. van Heerden, F. Pienaar. Replacements: J. Oliver, H. Horne, J. Fourie, C. Rossouw, T. van der Linde, R. Smit.

Chang triumphs

TENNIS: Michael Chang, right, won his third ATP title of the season by beating Mark Philippoussis, of Australia, 6-3, 6-4 in the Seiko Super tournament in Tokyo yesterday. Philippoussis, 18, has reached three ATP finals but has yet to win a leading tournament. He earned 261 points during the tournament and will move up to No 30 — his highest position to date — when the ATP rankings are published today.



Atkins family double

CYCLING: Eddie Atkins, 47, the Aylesbury amateur who was the Great Britain champion 25-mile time-trialist in the late Seventies, scored his 28th victory of the season in the Hillingdon 25-mile event at Marlow, Buckinghamshire, yesterday with a time of 53min 02sec. Jamie, his son, 17, was the fastest junior in the trial, with a time of 57min 49sec. On Saturday, they finished first in their respective events at the Norford Combine event at Tempsford.

Harlow gains place

BOWLS: Greg Harlow, 27, a bricklayer's labourer from Soham, Cambridgeshire, laid the foundations for a good winter season yesterday when he beat Steve Halmal, of Paddington, in the England qualifier at Stevenage. This victory gained Harlow a place in the Churchill Insurance world indoor singles championship. Harlow, whose flamboyant style has earned him high praise, said: "That really sets me up for the season."

Valera wins tour place

GOLF: Francisco Valera, 21, from Barcelona, won the £10,000 first prize in the UAP Grand Finale tournament at Quinta do Peru, near Lisbon, yesterday with a total of 275, 13 under par. The victory gives Valera a place on the PGA European Tour next year. The top ten in the PGA Challenge Tour final order of merit win places and Valera, who attacked the course like a young Severiano Ballesteros, came from 28th in the list to eighth with his one-stroke win.

Spacey in goal spree

FOOTBALL: Arsenal defeated Everton 6-0 in the Women's National Premier League yesterday. Marianne Spacey, right, the England striker, took her total for the season to 11 by scoring four. Wembley, who have had a stuttering start, beat Wolverhampton Wanderers 3-0. Aysla Litau completed her hat-trick in the 89th minute. Hope Powell also scored three for Croydon, who beat Millwall 5-0.



Hand hat-trick decisive

ICE HOCKEY: Three goals by Tony Hand helped Sheffield Steelers to a convincing 7-3 away victory over Cardiff Devils in the first leg of the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals. The remaining three matches were more closely contested. Fife Flyers defeated Newcastle Warriors 6-5, their winning goal coming 77 seconds from time by Mark Morrison. Basingstoke Bison beat Nottingham Panthers 5-4, and Humberside Hawks drew 5-5 with Durham Wasps.

Braves in World Series

BASEBALL: The Atlanta Braves reached their third World Series in five years with a comprehensive 6-0 defeat of the Cincinnati Reds. Steve Avery and three relievers restricted a stifled Cincinnati to three hits as Atlanta secured the National League championship series in four games. Avery said: "This is what it's all about. I'm proud of myself." Chipper Jones, his team-mate said: "To go out and sweep a team like that is unbelievable."

McKenzie in form again

ROWING: Rob McKenzie and Chris Leonard, of Walton, proved that their second place in the Pairs Head behind Peter Haining and Rorie Henderson was no fluke by excelling in the Weybridge Sculls. McKenzie was a clear winner, and Leonard shared second place with Tom Westerling, of Eton, and Richard Stanhope, now a veteran with four Olympic and eight world championship appearances behind him.

West Indies fight back

CRICKET: West Indies achieved their first success in the Champions Trophy in Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates yesterday with an emphatic four-wicket victory over Pakistan, the favourites to win the three-nation tournament. They held Pakistan to 194 for nine in 50 overs, then raced to victory with 10.5 overs to spare. Pakistan remain in a strong position with two wins while West Indies and Sri Lanka, with one win each, meet today.

Why has there been a spate of accidents?

Frank Warren, the promoter

"It is very difficult to justify boxing when you see terrible injuries like those and the damage it does to families. I could not look Jim's father and mother in the eye and say the sport should go on."

British Medical Association

"This is yet another individual tragedy which highlights the fact that boxing is not a safe sport. Doctors will continue to warn of the dangers, but it is for society to decide whether it can tolerate the continuing tragic waste of young lives in the name of sport."

Barry McGuigan, chairman of the Professional Boxers' Association

"They will regurgitate the same old tired argument that boxing is morally unacceptable."



Warren: hard to justify

REACTION

able. What is much more important is the question: why has there been a spate of accidents recently in boxing?"

John Keane, the referee

"I am very upset. It is a terrible tragedy. My thoughts and prayers are with James Murray's family and friends and also with Drew Docherty."

John Morris, secretary of the British Boxing Board of Control

"The behaviour of the crowd in one section of the hall was disgusting. We have no idea what sparked the trouble, but what happened was a disgrace. Our doctors and paramedics did a wonderful job to remove James Murray to the hospital so quickly and so efficiently despite the chaotic atmosphere."

Mike Goodall, the master of ceremonies

"You had a boxer having treatment in the ring and they were fighting between themselves. It was mindless."

Drew Docherty, the opponent

"Words cannot express how badly we feel about James' death. Our thoughts are with his family and friends."



Dedicated to fight game

JAMES MURRAY was dedicated to boxing after taking up the sport at the age of 18. Two years ago, he gave up five-a-side football for fear of injuring his legs and damaging his career prospects. Murray, 25, lived in Newmans, 30 miles from Glasgow, and worked in the council parks department as a gardener.

Murray was out of work when he first put on boxing gloves, at the Cleland amateur club in Lanarkshire. He trained there five days a week, then moved to other amateur clubs before turning professional in 1993. By then, he had represented Scotland against England. In 1989, he reached the Scottish ABA finals, but lost in the third round to Drew Docherty, who he fought on Friday night. In 1992, he won the Scottish ABA bantamweight title.

Murray took the vacant Scottish title in November 1994. He had 17 professional bouts, winning 15.

Els settles

Reading recove

Culliford strike p

Lonely Cole feels the strain of forced labour

Manchester United
Manchester City 0

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

PARISH matters generate a lot of gossip, but, once the hurly-burly was done at Old Trafford, neither group of players could claim to have learnt anything they did not know. To suggest that City were worth a point is to miss the point they do not understand how to win football matches. United, for all their other failings, do.

A goal after four minutes by Scholes, who took the place of the injured Cantona until he was withdrawn, apparently tired, on the hour, gave United the FA Carling Premiership points. Andy Cole should have trebled the score in the second half, but he has mislaid his shooting boots and, in the end, United were happy enough with what they got.

Those are the hard bones of the story. The sub-text is slightly different, for while Alan Ball is entitled to think that his players had done as well as they could in their fraught circumstances, Alex

Ferguson cannot be completely content. He is remodelling his team commendably and there is plenty of youthful talent with which to do it, but so much depends on the absent Frenchman.

You can say what you like about Cantona, and people have. He admires mediocre writers, talks through his teeth in a manner that impresses only the credulous and has been indulged by the sort of television who proudly told viewers two weeks ago, on Cantona's return to the side, that "Maneet is painting his pictures again". In Salford, one gathers, they speak of nothing else.

In fact, if you were looking for an artistic equivalent, it is not a search to be recommended — it might be better to skip a generation and focus on Derain, the "wild beast" who grew up. When his injured knee mends, it will be down to Cantona whether he trades his powerful maverick and deep greens for more restrained colours. Let us hope so, for he is a brilliant player and Old Trafford is the most suitable stage for such brilliance.



Scholes celebrates his decisive early goal in the Manchester derby on Saturday

My word, how Cole needs him. The striker, "made" by Beardsley at Newcastle United, was supposed to have prospered alongside Cantona. Instead, he labours through lonely hours and is not a happy camper.

Cole is good at one thing — scoring goals. This season,

having found the net once in seven matches, he is not even doing that.

He headed wide from an unmarked position in front of goal, allowed Innes to smother a poor shot and screwed another effort, a better one, past the far post. The supporters are right to expect rather

more from a player who cost £7 million.

As for Giggs, what would he give for a right foot? In the first half, daintily losing his marker with a shuffle, he preferred to turn the ball back into the penalty area with the outside of his left foot instead of whacking it with his right; the

shot was a better option. Later, sent clear by Sharpe, he again transferred the ball to his favoured side, enabling Innes to parry. It was a good save, admittedly, but Giggs had done half the job for the goalkeeper by signalling exactly how and where he was going to shoot.

Where City go from here is hard to divine. Their next two matches are against Leeds United and Liverpool, so it is possible that they will go into November with one point from a possible 33. At that rate, they would end up with fewer points in a season than an errant motorist does in a bad week.

They had chances to win this game, but Quinn, that ever-willing centre forward, made a hash of both. To shoot wide of the goal, when Pallister's error presented him with an unimpeded run at it, was the sort of mishap that the Irishman will relive in his dreams for as long as City remain in a relegation position, which suggests that he will have some bad nights.

City won hands down, or rather fell up, in bookings. Phelan, Lomas and Curie

were cautioned inside three turbulent minutes in the second half, and Filicraft followed them. Beagrie should have joined them for aiming a boot at Gary Neville and, on being substituted immediately, he spat provocatively towards the crowd, Tony Book, sitting "ringside", guided him off and, if the club's self-respect counts for anything, Ball will discipline the player.

Before the game, there was talk that Ball would fall on his sword if his team suffered a defeat comparable to the pair that United inflicted last season. There was no blood on the ground afterwards. Apparently, he remains the support of the club's "Messiah" in Manchester's evening football newspaper. What sort of word is that, "Messiah"? It seems that Cantona is not the only person with some growing up to do.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P. Schmechel — G. Neville, S. Bruce, P. Wallace, P. Wallace — D. Beckham, N. Butt, R. Keane, I. Taylor, M. McCluskey, T. Smith, C. G. Cole. MANCHESTER CITY (4-4-2): E. Brown — F. Edgill, A. Lunn, R. Symons, T. Phelan — S. Lomas, G. Frith, G. Kinkaid, P. Beagrie, I. Taylor, N. Summerville, S. N. Quinn, S. G. Currie, T. L. R. Currie. Referee: R. D. Clark.

Confused Palace provide hope for Coppell

Port Vale 1
Crystal Palace 2

By A CORRESPONDENT

DEAN GORDON, one of six Crystal Palace players on the transfer list, gave his side some much-needed room for manoeuvre in the lower reaches of the English League first division with a superb winning goal 12 minutes from time against a plucky, if rather low quality, Port Vale side, who remain second from bottom.

The Palace performance was not entirely convincing, particularly at the back, where confusion reigned too often to suggest that they can reclaim the premiership place they conceded last season, but Steve Coppell, their technical director, was not complaining too loudly as he left Vale Park yesterday.

Gordon's was one of two long-range efforts that lifted their display and sandwiched a more scrappy Vale strike during a lively, sometimes frantic, second half. Doug Freedman, a recent £800,000 signing from Barnet, put Palace ahead in the 54th minute and Lee Glover equalised six minutes later.

Palace have spent heavily since last season, but are yet to replace adequately Southgate, their former captain. Roberts, who cost them £23 million from Millwall, tidied things up in front of the central defenders, but did not provide the same surging runs.

At the back, where Gordon reverted to accommodate the Dyer up front, neither Coleman nor Shaw demon-

strated why they have, respectively, asking prices of £4 million and £2 million on their heads. Guppy, the Vale winger, caused problems on the left and Coleman, in particular, was guilty, on several occasions, of failing to clear.

The willing Mills almost capitalised on one such early error but shot wide and, in another attack, Walker's diving header from Guppy's accurate centre almost embarrassed Martyn. These incidents apart, the first half had little to commend it.

Both sides raised the tempo after the break. Freedman produced the first move of true class when he met Taylor's flick on from Hopkins' throw to volley over Van Heusen with a wickedly dipping shot.

Vale's equaliser stemmed from uncertainty in the Palace defence. They failed to clear Walker's corner, then Dean Glover managed to shoot the ball back across the six-yard box and Lee Glover shot in unmarked from close range.

Matthew replaced Rodger for Palace and Vale exchanged Talbot and Naylor for McCarthy and Mills, but, until Gordon's shot, that swerved beyond a surprised goalkeeper, a draw seemed the most likely and fairest result.

"We tried a new system with Freedman playing behind the front two and it worked," Ray Lewington, the Palace coach, said.

PORT VALE (4-4-2): A. Van Heusen — J. Hill, G. Griffiths, D. Glover, D. Stokes — J. McCarthy, S. Talbot, D. Gordon, A. Pinner, N. Walker, S. Guppy — L. Glover, I. Mills, S. Taylor. Referee: M. Williams.

CRYSTAL PALACE (4-4-2): D. Gordon — D. Walker, R. Smith, C. Coleman, D. Gordon, R. Houghton, A. Roberts, D. Freedman, S. Rodger, S. D. Matthews, S. Dyer, G. Taylor. Referee: M. Williams.

Wednesday lack fighting spirit

Hignett paves the way for Juninho's arrival on Teesside

Sheffield Wednesday 0
Middlesbrough 1

By PETER BALL

DOES Juninho know what he is letting himself in for? A penalty by Craig Hignett was enough to win an interesting but somewhat bloodless game at Hillsborough yesterday and take Middlesbrough up to fourth in the FA Carling Premiership, level on points with Arsenal, but it may need more than even the Brazilian genius to make them into real championship contenders.

Middlesbrough just about deserved their victory, always looking marginally the more purposeful side, but it was no surprise that it took a penalty to break the deadlock — a grand total of one booking told its own tale of a game with a surprising lack of passion.

Both sides played pleasingly enough, but there was little bite in either penalty area.

When they did get in sight of goal, Middlesbrough were the more incisive, but Fjortoft, even before he limped away with an injury five minutes into the second half, and Barnby looked as if they were still depressed by the events — or lack of them — in England's goalless draw with Norway in Oslo last week.

Instead, Middlesbrough's most serious threats came from Cox, the right back, who forced a splendid save from Pressman before half-time and went even closer after it. Rising to meet Hignett's corner, his header flew down and put off the underside of the crossbar, prompting a desperate scramble before Pressman made another fine save to resist Middlesbrough to their one goal.

If anything, at least in the first half, Wednesday's approach work was the smoother, but, with Hirst suspended, they lacked incisiveness up front. Their best chances fell to

Bright in the early stages, yet, although he chased willingly, he rarely threatened to disturb Middlesbrough's three-strong line of central defenders. Degryse looked lightweight once again.

"We had enough of the play today to manoeuvre a goalscoring chance," David Platt, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, said afterwards. "We got into some terrific positions, but we needed better crosses some of the time and we needed more people flooding into the box to make them count."

The home side at least showed more purpose than in their defeat by Leeds United at Elland Road two weeks ago, but they are critically lacking in pace and height at the front and are already too close to the foot of the table for comfort. The sale of Petrescu to Chelsea at least gives Platt some money to spend.

An infusion of new blood is becoming a pressing need. Too often, a lack of character appears to permeate the team, excepting those in the back four, although, even there, Bristow gave away the penalty when he handled the ball for no apparent reason. While Waddle at times promised to create something worthwhile, at others, he gave the ball away, in dangerous positions, through sheer self-indulgence.

In the end, Wednesday's best hopes of a goal came from long-range attempts by Penbridge. A free kick from fully 35 yards was fumbled by Walsh, but Bright was unable to turn in the loose ball, before another effort from Penbridge flew over the bar.

Wednesday's best moments had come in the first half-hour, notably from one chip by Waddle that almost opened the way for Bright. The threat was nearly enough. Middlesbrough's defence showing a rare moment of panic as Walsh came to collect it, only to have it kicked out of his hands by Pearson.



Barnby rises above Nolan, the Wednesday defender, as Middlesbrough step up the pace at Hillsborough

The visitors had been breaking through increasingly and, shortly after the interval, Hignett shot wide after a sweeping move. Hendrie having just replaced Fjortoft. Finally, they scored. Hignett's corner was headed back by Vickers, as Wednesday

claimed a foul on Atherton, and Bristow, for reasons best known to himself, went for it with his hand.

"His hand caught the ball, but I don't think it was intentional," Platt said. Nevertheless, the referee could hardly avoid his decision and

Hignett beat Pressman with conviction.

Wednesday worked hard for an equaliser, without really threatening one, and the nearest to another goal came as Cox met another corner by Hignett with a thumping header.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-1-3-2): K. Pressman — H. Nolan, P. Ardington, D. Walker, I. Bristow — C. Waddell, S. Taylor, J. Smith, D. Taylor, M. Penbridge, A. Gordon, N. Degryse, I. Taylor, G. Whittingham, S. M. Bright. MIDDLESBROUGH (5-2-3-1): G. Walsh — N. Cox, S. Vickers, N. Pearson, D. Whyte, C. Morris — J. Fjortoft, R. Mullan, C. Hignett, N. Barnby — J. A. Fjortoft, S. J. Hendrie, S. Taylor. Referee: G. Ashby.

Player	Pos	Goal	Recent form
1	Goalkeeper	0	WWWWW
2	Defender	0	WWWWW
3	Defender	0	WWWWW
4	Defender	0	WWWWW
5	Defender	0	WWWWW
6	Defender	0	WWWWW
7	Defender	0	WWWWW
8	Defender	0	WWWWW
9	Defender	0	WWWWW
10	Defender	0	WWWWW
11	Defender	0	WWWWW
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95	Defender	0	WWWWW
96	Defender	0	WWWWW
97	Defender	0	WWWWW
98	Defender	0	WWWWW
99	Defender	0	WWWWW
100	Defender	0	WWWWW

Villa offer precious little peak viewing

Brian Little, the Aston Villa manager, likes to relax with a video. Of the football variety, of any match and often.

"Quite apart from watching the live games wherever possible, I get videos of the others sent to me and watch them a great deal each week," he said. "It's not too difficult nowadays for rival managers to keep an eye on each other."

As Little peruses his collection this morning, he might swiftly shy away from the one labelled "Oct 14, 1995 v Chelsea." Should he dare peek, it will make excruciating viewing. It will show, as if he did not know already, how Villa, second in the FA Carling Premiership, surrendered to a no more than workmanlike Chelsea side at Villa Park on Saturday.

It will vividly remind Little of how Villa's steady progress up the premiership table, after only one defeat in eight outings, had come to an abrupt halt how his conscientious summer recruiting had been exposed as still way short of what is required and how Chelsea had won for only the second time in 30 visits to the Villa d'ad.

Though the tape — Nightmare

Russell Kempson on a 1-0 triumph for Chelsea that owed more to graft than to Gullit's craft

on Trinity Road, maybe — can be safely watched in solitary confinement, in a darkened room long after midnight, it is only a stark away from spine-chilling status. Little will have to steel himself, pour a stiff drink and review at his peril. Perhaps better it should be witnessed now than when the



Little watching brief

business becomes serious in the new year.

"We had a lot of players below par," he conceded. "It had 0-0 written all over it, but you are not going to win games if you have a fair percentage of your players not performing. Credit to Chelsea, though. They did a good job." Indeed, they did. Yet Chelsea's fourth premiership victory in five matches did not arrive without grind and sweat, with Gullit providing a glimpse or two of finesse.

At times, he grew frustrated at the mere mortals surrounding him. He appealed frequently, arms outstretched, for greater movement and greater understanding of the game's nuances. Yet, equally frequently, he posed problems for his team-mates by over-elaboration.

Chelsea could have gone ahead after only 11 minutes. Southgate inadvertently glanced on Wise's corner and Roanick made a marvellous save from Peacock's fierce header. There ended the first-half

drama. The second period saw little improvement, though Chelsea's confidence escalated as Villa's self-belief evaporated. In the 72nd minute, Hughes received Burley's pass and guarded it as if never going to give it back. Almost reluctantly, he eventually released the ball to Wise, who drove crisply past Bosnich.

Not that Glenn Hoddle, the Chelsea manager, could find too much to enthuse about. Yes, he was satisfied tactically; yes, he had about six other players who were champing at the bit to get in the side; yes, the competition for places was healthy; and no, he was not surprised by Gullit's all-embracing influence since his arrival.

It is a source of constant disappointment that Hoddle, one of English football's most expressive players, is unable, apparently by choice, to share his managerial views with similar abandon. Chill out, Glenn. Get yourself a video, sit back and relax.

ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M. Roanick — U. Echeverri, P. McGovern, G. Southgate — G. Charles, I. Taylor, M. Wright, S. Burley (capt), G. Pearson, T. Smith, A. Wright — D. Yonke, S. Mowatt (capt), T. Johnson, T. Smith, S. Johnson — R. Gullit — C. Barry, D. Wise, G. Peacock, A. Myers — P. Furlong, M. Hughes. Referee: S. Dunn.

Bohinen revives Blackburn

The blank FA Carling Premiership calendar last week could result in only two things: a poor England performance and the appearance of "Le Tissier on his way to..." reports in the newspapers. England did not disappoint, and the more sensational scribbles decided that it was the turn of Blackburn to be linked with the Channel Islands.

According to reports, Jack Walker was still recovering from a fit of pique after his management team refused to sign the player. Le Tissier himself claimed on Saturday that such stories were "like water off a duck's back now. I don't take any notice." Neither, apparently, did he notice his side's predicament as they were eased aside 2-1 by the rejuvenated champions. This was one of his lethargic days.

With hindsight, the transfer story may have been leaked by Rovers to act as a smokescreen for another piece of more meaningful business. A move that, on the evidence of Saturday, could well rescue their season from further embarrassment.

Lars Bohinen slipped relatively unnoticed into Ewood Park last week from Nottingham Forest and, after just one game, he has given Blackburn a left-sided dimension which had previously been missing.

Ray Harford, his manager, was already relishing his potential after the game. "I was very pleased with his performance," he said. "I have always liked Lars, ever since he came over here. He fits in well with our game. He dislodges defenders, they see him coming and forget about others. He excited the crowd today."

It had taken the Norway international just 18 minutes to endear himself to Rovers' support when he headed home a cross from Ripley. His subsequent workrate only served to add to his charm.

Paradoxically, it was Le Tissier who received most of the crowd's attention. Even the victorious Rovers players were largely ignored by their own followers at the players' entrance. The supporters

greeted the Southampton folk-hero with a spirited rendition of *Happy Birthday*. In this future last year, Le Tissier produced a strike that earned the accolade of goal of the season on *Match of the Day*. On this occasion, his efforts were docile in the extreme.

Dave Merrington, the Southampton manager, had attempted to alter the course of the match when he made two substitutions within four minutes, but to no avail. Le Tissier's performance screamed for a replacement, but Southampton knew that was not an option. "He is the one player who can change a game," Merrington said.

After Shearer had made the game safe with a free kick after 70 minutes, and Maddison had proffered a token reply on the final whistle, Blackburn were cheered off to the strains of *Simply the Best*. Unfortunately, the best in this match appeared wholly apathetic to everything around him.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T. Flowers — H. Begg, I. Preece, C. Hendrie, I. Smith — S. D. Barry, T. Shearer, L. Bohinen — C. Sutton, A. Shaw. SOUTHAMPTON (4-3-1-2): D. Beasant — J. Dodd, R. Hall, M. Monk, F. Bardsley — N. Merrington, T. Wright, P. Foulke, S. Smith, D. Hughes — M. Le Tissier — G. Watson (capt), S. Carrigan, G. N. Shearer. Referee: M. Reed.

Sturrock a victim of the dugout pressures

Anyone around Tannadice in the 1980s knew about Paul Sturrock's ambitions. Football's pasta era was just beginning and the Dundee United forward was convinced that, with care and good diet, he could go on playing until his late thirties. On Saturday, he was indeed amid the familiar surroundings, but stuck, as the manager of St Johnstone, in the dugout.

Soon after United had opened the scoring, in the first half, Sturrock, who had been complaining of breathlessness and chest pains, collapsed. He was taken to Ninewells Hospital and detained in the coronary unit, where initial tests did not show that he had suffered a heart attack. All the same, it is a traumatic episode for a man of 39.

The news from Tannadice triggered memories of Jock Stein's death, at the Scotland v Wales match in Cardiff ten years ago, but there is no true analogy. Stein was a far older man, with a history of heart

trouble, who had, as a miner, led a punishing life even before football swallowed him up.

In the public mind, always slow to assimilate change, Sturrock still is thought of as an athlete and ill-health feels like an impossibility. It is, in fact, six years since he stopped playing first-team football, finding that action inevitably brought injury to a body that had received a steady battering over a long career.

For a man who principally loved to play, and did it better than any other forward in Dundee, United's history, management loomed. He took over at St Johnstone three years ago, charged with saving them from relegation, but the initiation into his new profession was brutal. On the last day of the season in 1993, his team fell from the premier division when the scoring of just one more goal in the season would have saved them.

Sturrock had swiftly learnt

that a manager's life is rooted in anguish. St Johnstone have failed to recover since. The club's finances remain sound, but significant players, such as Billy Dodds, John Inglis and Paul Wright, have been sold to bring in the necessary cash. Even so, nobody could say that Sturrock had been a success.

This season, defeat at home by Livingston in the Coca-Cola Cup left St Johnstone squirming in shame. With the third anniversary of Sturrock's appointment approaching, gossip about his imminent dismissal and his likely successor has been commonplace. If that is cruel, it is also the custom of the trade.

The anxiety has been evident. Sturrock was always lean, as if purpose-built to slip through the gaps in a defence, but lately some flab has gathered on that frame. A manager's routines, that stretch from early morning until late at night, do lead to snacks, trips to motorway cafes and other practices frowned upon by dieticians.

A game requiring fitness in youth drags men towards bad habits in middle age. Stress, however, is football's cruellest imposition. Sturrock's employers are no more callous than their counterparts at other clubs, but the development of Scottish football makes everyone anxious. Until recently, St Johnstone were regarded as a model club, possessing a new stadium, while dilapidation was still in vogue elsewhere.

In 1990, St Johnstone rose into the premier division and decided that their only chance of remaining there was to go full-time. Many others have taken the same step. There are 19 clubs now operating on that basis, more than there has ever been in Scottish football. Crowds and resources, though, have not swollen to meet their needs.

St Johnstone are better equipped than some, but directors around the country continue to authorise the unfeasible in the faint hope that full-time football will ensure one of the elusive places in the premier division, and the income that accompanies it. The quest is desperate and this weekend in hospital may be the first occasion in a long time that Sturrock has stopped worrying about his club.

Paul Gascoigne, Brian Laudrup, Charlie Miller and Ian Ferguson seem likely to miss Rangers' European Cup Champions' League match against Juventus in Turin on Wednesday because of injury.

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Sturrock had swiftly learnt

Shrewsbury have the edge in centenary fixture

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

Stuart Jones sees Malvern College miss out in a match that has now been played for 100 years

The origins of football at Shrewsbury School were inauspicious. The Rev. Samuel Butler thought the game fit to be played "only by lads' boys". He was the headmaster at the time, early in the 19th century, and the only pitch lay within sight of his study windows.

In spite of his pronouncement, however, the school was to establish links with the game that preceded the formation of the Football Association, and it still houses the oldest surviving set of laws. Centenary celebrations, therefore, are not uncommon, and Saturday featured another.

Malvern College returned to the site that they first visited in 1896. They drew 2-2 then and the series was balanced at 38 victories apiece before they went down 2-0 on Saturday. Jamie Leach reinforcing Shrewsbury's palpable superiority with the second goal, their 196th in the 97 games between these teams.

Robin Trimby, a former Cambridge Blue and England amateur international, was in charge of the school team during the evolution from ancient to modern football. That was during the 1960s, when the shirts, boots and ball all became lighter and strategy began to play a more significant role.

On Saturday, he was prepared to turn out for the super-veterans (the over-45s) before passing his trained eye over the new breed. "It is not as good to watch as in the old



Hughes, left, and Morgan, of Malvern, vie for possession at Shrewsbury on Saturday. Photograph: Julian Herbert

days," he said, although he appreciated Shrewsbury's tactical soundness.

The fixture, held each year with only three exceptions, is not the oldest in the public school calendar. Charterhouse and Westminster have been playing each other since

1863 and, two years ago, Shrewsbury and Repton marked their centenary.

Whereas public schools once led the way (representatives from Eton, Harrow, Rugby and Shrewsbury, as well as Cambridge University, established the original

rules), they now evidently follow. The match was as fast, physical and condensed as is the custom at the highest domestic level.

In view of the pace and power, it was just as well that the referee was David Elleray. A master at Harrow, he was

in charge of the FA Cup Final last season and of Eric Cantona's comeback for Manchester United a fortnight ago. He also supplied the ball, used in a European championship tie between Switzerland and Sweden. The occasion was sponsored

sored and staged in front of a temporary stand, the shirts were numbered and the players spat, an odious and unnecessary habit doubtless picked up from watching the professionals. A book, distributed during the festivities, recalled less restricted and more appealing spectacles.

Many of those who contributed to the illustrated history of Shrewsbury School Football were present on Saturday, if not actively involved in the dozen other matches between the schools ranged across an expansive area described by Neville Cardus as "the most beautiful playing fields in the world".

Stan Collis, the distinguished manager of Wolverhampton Wanderers, was accompanying his colts when he once proclaimed: "Any first division club would be proud of this ground." Little did he know that he was standing on the pitch manicured not for the first team but for the fourth.

The grass was not always shortened so meticulously. The late Geoffrey Green, a former football correspondent of *The Times*, wrote about "a moment of fun and inspiration", captured by his brother, Archie, "keeping a cold and lonely goal".

During an under-16 match, his team was eight goals to the good by the interval. "Unemployed and bored, he spied a goat tethered to a nearby fence. He proceeded to transfer it to his own goal, tying it to one of the posts, while he joined the forwards." The 11 men and the goat won 22-0.

In those days, players were ordered not to engage in such overt unreason as shaking hands with the scorer. Less than two decades ago, Nick Hancock, an old boy and now presenter of the BBC series, *They Think It's All Over*, was sent off in a school match for the unusual crime of "not wearing garters".

Offences, plainly, have been modernised as well as the game itself. On the cover of the book is a picture of a winger in full flight. Ben Chesters is his name and he operated on the left flank on Saturday. For breaking a curfew during a pre-season tour in Italy, recently, he was suspended for six matches.

Wicks prepares for dismissal as manager at Lincoln

STEVE WICKS is almost certain to be dismissed as manager of Lincoln City today after a bizarre conclusion to his side's goalless draw at Scarborough on Saturday. Wicks, who was appointed by the club just six weeks ago, was close to tears in the post-match press conference after being told, unofficially, that he was to be relieved of his duties this morning.

"I was as proud of punch with my players and the fans, but it was a very sad day for me," Wicks, the former Chelsea defender and, ironically, a former manager of Scarborough, said. "It all appears to have been done and dusted. I am just waiting for my chairman to contact me, but I have already cleared my desk at Sincil Bank."

John Reames, the club chairman, refused to comment, but it is understood that Lincoln, who are bottom of the Endleigh Insurance League third division, are to appoint John Beck, the former Preston

North End and Cambridge United manager, as their eleventh manager in the past ten years.

Trevor Morley, the Reading striker, is to resume playing two months after fracturing his skull in a collision with Jon Gittens, the Portsmouth defender, in a first division match at Fratton Park. Morley, who is said to be considering taking legal action against Gittens as a result of the incident, will wear a special protective mask similar to the

one used by Gary Mabbutt when he suffered a facial injury.

"With the mask I'll be able to steam in as usual," Morley said. "It's been six weeks since my operation and above my left eye, where the metal plates were inserted, still feels a bit weird, but Mabbutt had an injury worse than mine and he was back playing in 11 weeks. I've missed playing so much I can't wait to get back."

Morley needed four hours of surgery to insert two metal plates above his sinuses to repair the injury, which happened in an aerial challenge with Gittens.

David O'Leary, the Leeds United and former Arsenal defender, has retired after failing to recover from an Achilles tendon injury.

O'Leary, 37, made 722 league and cup appearances for Arsenal, after making his debut in August 1975, before moving to Leeds two seasons ago. He made only 12 appearances for Leeds.

O'Leary's injuries



O'Leary: injuries

Lord's advice pays off for managerless Wigan

Nick Szczepanik watches Wigan's three Spanish imports provide inspiration for an emphatic victory on away soil

SO WHO needs a manager anyway? Not Wigan Athletic, judging by their 4-0 Endleigh Insurance League third division win at St James Park on Saturday. After the dismissal of Graham Barrow as manager in the wake of a 6-2 home defeat the previous weekend, "adviser" Frank Lord (he prefers the term to "caretaker") and the backroom staff selected Diaz, Martinez and Seba, all three of their Spanish imports, for the first time this season, and Wigan ran away with it in the second half... and this was the team that was supposed to be staging a players' revolt.

The point was not lost on Peter Fox, the Exeter City player-manager, in a unique position, as the losing goalkeeper, to appreciate Wigan's striking power on the pitch. "It's an indictment of footballers that, when the manager's been sacked, they always seem to play well," Fox said.

The match was settled either side of the interval. First, Rice, the Exeter left back, trying to clear Leonard's header, succeeded only in presenting Diaz, his tormentor and the game's outstanding player, with an empty net after 39 minutes. Then, on the stroke of half-time, Exeter had a rare chance to breach the visitors' defence. Parsley's goal-bound drive, however, was kicked off the line by Greenall, who was to repeat the act in the second half. Ten

minutes after the break, it was all over. After 49 minutes, Martinez's dummy put Seba clear in the area with time to pick his spot, and, six minutes later, with Exeter temporarily a man short while Parsley was undergoing treatment, Diaz made the most of the extra space to find the unmarked Leonard, whose header was his first goal of 1995. "Lack of professionalism," Fox lamented at his players' failure to cover for the injured defender. "We've even had to practise kick-offs."

Exeter could have had even more than their five further rehearsals, as their attempts to push forward in search of a consolation left gaps that Wigan's "three Amigos" revelled in. Pinging first-time passes at speed and stretching the defence mercilessly, they eventually added a fourth goal when Seba showed faultless technique in controlling what had looked a difficult bouncing ball among a crowd of players before making enough space to slip the ball past Fox. Their trademark masochist salute, often rehearsed but seldom seen so far this season, was finally delivered with conviction. Oil, as they say in Wigan.

SCOTTISH CRY 4-4-2: P. Fox — M. Carr, R. Turner, J. Richardson, G. Rice (sub: J. Morgan, 45min) — N. Parsley (sub: M. Owen, 55, M. Chamberlain, D. Bailey, P. Buckle, 45min). WIGAN ATHLETIC (4-2-3): S. Farnworth — J. Butler, C. Greenall, J. Richardson, N. Ogden (sub: J. Pender, 61) — I. O'Brien, C. Leonard (sub: N. Fenner, 52), R. Martinez — I. Diaz, M. Leonard, J. Seba. Referee: G. Singh.

Wasteful Abbott costs leaders easy victory

Keith Pike finds resigned frustration among the Enfield faithful at the team's efforts to recapture recent glories

FOR more than two decades, they were the outstanding club in non-league football, with 11 championships and six Wembley finals; but lucky? Try telling them that at Enfield, where they are bidding to recapture recent glories and where the fickle finger of fate keeps poking them in the eye.

Some of the loudest cheers at Southbury Road are still reserved for news of defeats for Tottenham Hotspur, their nearest rivals, and Barnet, their most bitter ones. The presence of Barnet in the third division is a nagging reminder of what might have been.

Lucky Enfield? In 1986, five years before Barnet could manage it, Enfield won the "fifth division", automatic promotion to the Football League was introduced 12 months later. After relegation in 1990, they finished runners-up three times in four years; last season, after finally winning the Diadora League, they had to forgo promotion when the club's financial situation was deemed unsatisfactory.

So when, on Saturday, Enfield missed two straightforward chances to see off Hayes in the Ics League premier division's match of the day, there was more of a mass, resigned shrug than any hysteria.

That both chances were fluffed by Gary Abbott, one of the most reliable strikers outside the Football League,

only added to the frustration. Thirteen minutes into the second half, after Gentle had burst forcefully from midfield, Abbott was left with only Meara to beat. The shot was thumped straight into the goalkeeper's midriff.

Abbott's aberration, 17 minutes from time, was even less forgivable. Set up unselfishly by Flemming, and needing only to make firm contact, he miskicked; horribly. He might have been playing with a hamstring injury and a broken nose, but Abbott's finishing suggested that he had also been blindfolded.

Had either chance been converted, Enfield would this morning be nine points clear of Boreham Wood rather than seven points. Instead, the unmarked Kerr's header from a corner earned a draw after Kellman had given Hayes the lead in the first half.

"We are doing OK," George Borg, the Enfield manager, said. "Everybody thinks we are entitled to win every game, but we have five new players and they are gelling in slowly. Once we hit our peak form, we will be unstoppable." Unless, of course, fate decrees otherwise.

ENFIELD 4-4-2: A. Page — G. Blackford, S. Terry, A. Kerr, J. Carlisle — D. Nelson (sub: D. Flemming, 57min), D. Gray, A. Sayer, J. Gentle — G. Abbott, J. Richardson. HAYES 4-2-1-2: R. Meara — J. Denton, W. Kelly, A. Cox, J. Goscombe — D. Whitson, A. Vally — S. Bevan (sub: M. Howard, 67) — D. Kellman (sub: J. Brady, 60), D. Pearce, M. Randall. Referee: M. Halsey.

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Mike Strutt looks at how couples get on when they are called to the cross-bar for tandem touring

Two for the open road

A day out on a tandem is not so much a masochistic joke as the best test of compatibility anyone could devise. There you are, stuck with someone on a bike and sharing two pairs of pedals that must be turned together. Both of you, in unison, have to balance the bike, pedal harder, freewheel, brake and turn. There are also the little matters of where to go and where to stop for lunch.

Ian and Cathie Groat are still on good terms after covering thousands of miles on the gleaming £1,700 silver-green Roberts tandem that they ride on weekend trips to scenic parts of Scotland, and on holiday tours in Britain, Europe and America.

How do they achieve harmony on a tandem when some couples cannot even agree on where to go on holiday? "You have to develop certain skills which aren't normal cycling skills," says Mr Groat, of Helensburgh, near Glasgow, who lectures on product design at Glasgow School of Art. "Communication is important. You get to know what's going to happen next."

Mrs Groat, who is French and teaches French, says: "You can't bottle anything up. We had an argument cycling on the Yorkshire moors and stopped to have a row. We suddenly realised we'd have to sort it out to get back on the bike to go somewhere afterwards."

Mr Groat adds: "Tandems are wonderful things to ride when you know them well. There is something very satisfying about both of you putting energy into the same device. There can be no passengers — front or back. We are quite competitive. Cathie would like the back end of the bike to overtake the front — the net result is very good efficiency from both of us."

"You can tell when your partner isn't having a good day..." he says. "...The other half of the bike feels like lead," says Mrs Groat, finishing his sentence.

Uphill performance is not as good as with a solo bike, they concede, but on the flat their lightweight tandem is 10 per cent faster, and going down hills is "electricity," they can reach speeds of

SPORT FOR ALL

more than 40 mph. Unlike soloists, tandemists can map-read on the move and take photographs from the back without stopping.

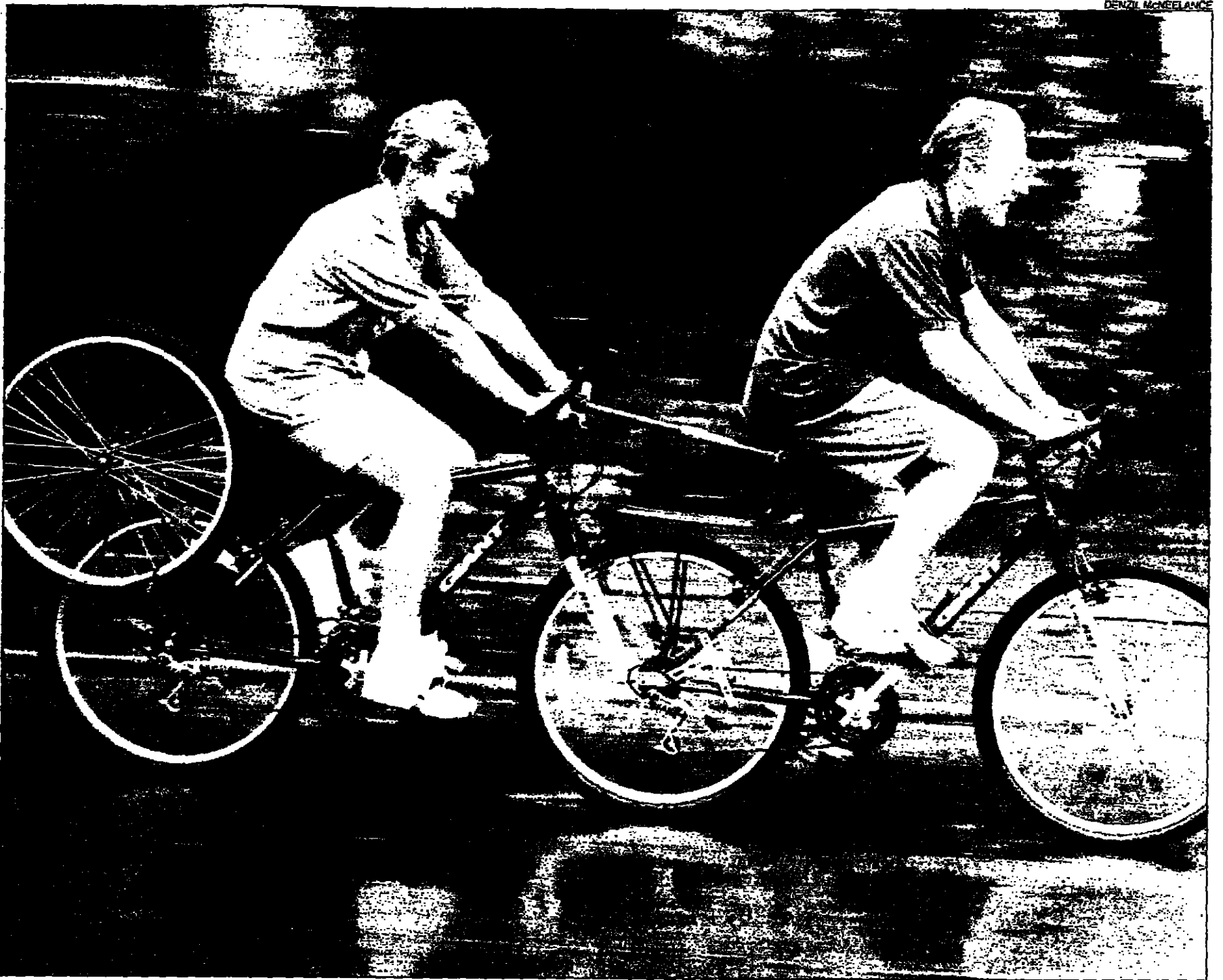
Interest in tandem riding is growing. The Groats belong to the Tandem Club, which celebrates its 25th anniversary next year and includes French, Dutch, Belgian and American riders among its 6,000 members.

John Barton, the editor of the club's magazine, says: "The number is going up all the time. About 400 members travelled to our rally in Brittany in May — about half of them families."

Tandem riders range from couples to those with families, young riders, people with disabilities and spritely people in their seventies.

Earlier this year, the second Tandemania — a weekend with competitions and exhibitors at Lake Vyrnwy, in Wales — attracted 600 riders with 300 tandems. It is now established as an annual event showing a wider audience what the bikes have to offer. And last month the club held its annual British rally, at Llanham in Kent.

What becomes the "steersman", at the front, and who should be the "stoker", pedalling away at the back? This usually has to be agreed when a tandem is bought — both members of a couple are seldom the same height, so a machine hand-built for them by a small manufacturer will take proper account of their different heights and arm reach. Off-the-peg tandems are available and good secondhand ones start at £300.



Way to go: Colin and Sandra Deavin demonstrate the CycleMate he has devised as a neat way of converting bicycles to tandems in two or three minutes

The Groats tried a borrowed tandem on a three-week holiday and thoroughly researched the market before making any decisions. They say the answer to the steersman/stoker issue depends on temperament.

"Going fast downhill and cornering at speed requires blind faith by the stoker," Mr Groat says. "It is very similar to riding pillion on a motorbike, but you have more control because you are part of the power being generated and you have a brake."

Potholes can be maddening for stokers. "Often the front end misses

but the rear doesn't," he says. "The steersman swerves to miss it, but at the back you don't see it coming."

Stopping at junctions is a bone of contention. Mrs Groat explains why: "Ian tends to look and start off while I might still be looking and see a car coming, so I stop. We still haven't worked it out because basically he's stubborn."

They have toured with the tandem in France, Holland, Canada and the United States, where they covered 600 miles of New England in three weeks. You do get noticed, they say. "In small towns," Mrs Groat says, "people come and talk

to you. You are treated a bit like freaks — but nice ones."

For those unwilling to make the outlay, there is something different: Colin Deavin's CycleMate, which joins two solo bicycles together in two or three minutes. You take out the front wheel of one bike and clamp the bike to the other by its front forks. Then add a strut that braces the two bikes at handlebar level. Result: a three-wheeler for leisure use which, with suitable bikes, also rides off-road.

The idea came to him, Mr Deavin says, when he and his family were using solo bikes on

holiday three years ago and found it hard to keep together as a group.

Unlike two-wheel tandems, with CycleMate the gear and pedalling systems remain independent. All that is needed to ride it is a little practice — and you can ride solo again when you want.

Mr Deavin says there has been huge interest in CycleMate ever since it was launched at the Ideal Home Exhibition in 1993 and it is now being exported. He says: "People with disabilities are fascinated by what it can do."

The version now being sold, for £139, recently won the Best Product

award at the National Cycle Show at Harrogate, having picked up the same award at last year's show. The new model, he says, gives better weight distribution and now the device will be able to connect an adult's bicycle to a four-year-old's first bike.

CycleMate might make serious tandem riders splutter into their cocoas but it could put a long-running joke finally to rest.

□ Tandem Club: 5 Swards End, Wickford, Essex SS12 9PB; Tandemania (01691 780050); CycleMate (0181-529 1834).

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Dealer South	Love all	Rubber bridge
<p>♠ A983 ♥ AK52 ♦ Q785 ♣ 8</p> <p>♠ QJ542 ♥ 76 ♦ 3 ♣ 107654</p>	<p>♠ 976 ♥ Q1043 ♦ KJ1042 ♣ AS</p> <p>♠ K10 ♥ J88 ♦ A88 ♣ KQJ82</p>	

S Pass 1 NT
W Pass 3 NT
N Pass All pass
E Pass All pass

Contract: 3 NT by South. Lead: Four of Spades

Although North-South were playing a weak NT (2-14), the South hand was too strong for the bid. South has a five-card suit and key intermediate cards in all the other suits. It would be quite in order for South to open 1 NT (15-17) if that was his method. The opening spade lead ran round to South's ten. What is South's best line?

This is a hand with various possibilities — double finesse in hearts, play a high club, try diamonds from dummy, try the ace of diamonds. If you choose one of these lines, you are not thinking about the hand properly. First, count your top tricks: After the ten of spades wins you have three in hearts, two in clubs, one in diamonds. So you need three more. Do you have a sure source of three extra ones? Clearly if you play the king of clubs you can establish two of them. If the clubs break badly, however, you might still need to find a trick somewhere else.

By now I hope you have noticed the significance of the nine of clubs. If you lead towards that at trick two, you are bound to make three club tricks. If the defence takes the ten, you return to hand with the king of spades to knock out the ace, and if the defence lets the nine hold, you still have the clubs to come to hand (with the

king of spades first) and knock out the ace of clubs. □ The British women's team just failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the Marlboro Venice Cup. With seven deals to go they were lying fourth, but Venezuela, their rivals for the last qualifying spot, finished strongly to pip them at the post. In the quarter-finals, two teams recorded crushing victories: China beat Venezuela 242-83 and France beat South Africa 229-126. Germany and the senior United States team were the other winners.

□ In the quarter-finals of the Bermuda Bowl in Peking, only one team recorded a convincing victory. Canada led throughout against South Africa, winning by 272 IMPs to 187. In the other three matches, Sweden beat Holland 227-182. The favourites, the United States, were 15 IMPs behind with 32 deals to play against Indonesia, but a final session enabled them to triumph by 216-171. The most dramatic match occurred when France, 11 IMPs behind with 16 to play, outscored China in the final session by 14 IMPs to win 196-193.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

ANTABUSE
a. Molestation of ants
b. Anti-alcohol drug
c. A soft answer

PETARD
a. A fibel
b. A mine
c. A seabird

ANFRACIOUS
a. Circutious
b. Bad-tempered
c. Without starch

REGLATION
a. Freezing again
b. Demoting
c. A legal commentary

Answers on page 41

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Dragon's fire

One of Karpov's main achievements in the realm of chess opening theory in his victorious match against Anand at New York was the resurrection of the Dragon Sicilian at championship level. Although used sporadically in elite matches for almost a century, the Dragon has always been regarded as too risky to be employed regularly. Over the next few days I shall be reviewing the Dragon's career at championship level. The Dragon first made its appearance in its accelerated form in a game between Janowski and Lasker from 1910. Unused to Black's diagonal strategy, Janowski quickly collapsed.

White: David Janowski
Black: Emanuel Lasker
Paris 1909

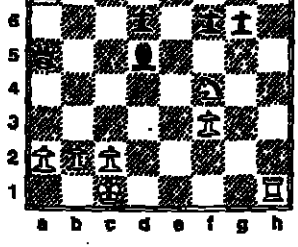
Sicilian Defence	Black resigns
1. e4 c5	2. Nf3
2. Nf3	2. Nf3
3. Nc3	3. Nc3
4. d4	4. d4
5. Nc4	5. Nc4
6. Be3	6. Be3
7. Be2	7. Be2
8. Qd2	8. Qd2
9. exd5	9. exd5
10. Nxd5	10. Nxd5
11. Bf3	11. Bf3
12. Bg5	12. Bg5
13. Be2	13. Be2
14. c5	14. c5
15. Rf1	15. Rf1
16. Nf5	16. Nf5
17. Nxd3	17. Nxd3
18. Nf5	18. Nf5
19. Bc4	19. Bc4
20. Bc5	20. Bc5
21. d5	21. d5
22. Rxd1	22. Rxd1
23. Qd4	23. Qd4
24. Ne4	24. Ne4
25. Ne3	25. Ne3
26. Ne4	26. Ne4
27. Bg5	27. Bg5

Although the Dragon was briefly revived by Botvinnik against Smyslov in 1958, it was dealt what seemed a death blow in 1974.

White: Anatoly Karpov
Black: Viktor Korchnoi
Candidates final
Moscow 1974

Sicilian Defence	Black resigns
1. e4 c5	2. Nf3
2. Nf3	2. Nf3
3. d4	3. d4
4. Nc4	4. Nc4
5. Nc3	5. Nc3
6. Be3	6. Be3
7. Qd2	7. Qd2
8. Qd2	8. Qd2
9. Bc4	9. Bc4
10. Bc4	10. Bc4
11. Bc4	11. Bc4
12. Bc4	12. Bc4
13. Bc4	13. Bc4
14. Bc4	14. Bc4
15. Bc4	15. Bc4
16. Bc4	16. Bc4
17. Bc4	17. Bc4
18. Bc4	18. Bc4
19. Bc4	19. Bc4
20. Bc4	20. Bc4
21. Bc4	21. Bc4
22. Bc4	22. Bc4
23. Bc4	23. Bc4
24. Bc4	24. Bc4
25. Bc4	25. Bc4
26. Bc4	26. Bc4
27. Bc4	27. Bc4

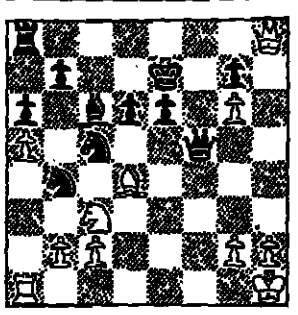
Diagram of final position



□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Anand — Kasparov, Intel world championship, game three 1995. In this position Anand, White to play, can either grab material with 1. Qxd5 or continue the attack with 1. Qe7+. Which is the best move, and why?



Solution on page 41



Win a holiday in Peru

EVERY DAY until the end of December, The Times and The Sunday Times, in association with Cox & Kings, are offering readers the exclusive chance to win one of 80 holidays for two. There is also an opportunity to win £20,000 to spend on an 80-day holiday of a lifetime.

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Next stop is Cuzco, ancient capital of the Inca Empire, which the Spanish conquistadores tried to recreate in colonial style. Now churches and mansions stand alongside ruined temples.

From here the winner will take a train journey to the lost city of Machu Picchu, the only known Inca city remaining intact. The city, which was built without the aid of the wheel, has complex terraces and intricate white granite stonework set into a remote mountain, making it one of the most memorable and awe-inspiring places in the world.

You will then spend four days cruising on board the Galapagos Explorer which has five decks, a salt water pool and modern amenities for 90 passengers.

Estimated to be three million years old, the Galapagos Islands became a breeding ground for unusual wildlife as well as the inspiration for Charles Darwin's theory of evolution.

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The price of today's holiday is £2,695, down from £2,995 (a saving for two people of £600) and includes return flights, transfers, 17 nights twinshare accommodation, sightseeing, a local guide, breakfast, plus one lunch in Peru and Ecuador and full board in the Galapagos Islands.

The winner of Thursday's Venice competition was Margaret Gray of Bristol.

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All you have to do to win today's holiday is answer the questions below and phone our competition hotline: 0891 40 50 34 which will be open until midnight tonight. The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries received. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

1. What is the name of the Inca city which still remains intact?
2. Where did Charles Darwin work out his theory of evolution?

TOMORROW: WIN A HOLIDAY TO INDIA

Great Run successes mark end of Scot's long struggles with injury

McColgan stays on Olympic course

By DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

LIZ MCCOLGAN was half-way down the finish tunnel, having won the women's prize in the Bupa Great Midland Run yesterday, when she pulled off her number, stepped to one side and handed it to a small girl spectator. The child seemed surprised, but then McColgan is full of surprises. Who but she thought that she would ever be running this well again?

McColgan's victory in Coventry was her fourth out of four in the Great Run series over the past four weeks. Now, she is off to the world's highest capital in the highest of spirits. Mexico City, at nearly 7,000ft, is where she has chosen to complete her preparations for her fifth marathon — and she hopes, her fastest.

Yesterday marked the anniversary of her comeback from an 18-month absence, during which she suffered back, hamstring, knee and toe injuries.

Results Page 32

Pens were poised for the athletics obituary of Great Britain's 1991 world 10,000 metres champion. So it was with understandable cheerfulness yesterday that she noted that she had not missed a day's training through injury for more than a year. It showed in the run, which was 32sec quicker than 12 months ago.

The course had been altered, but only slightly and certainly not enough to explain a half-minute improvement. With 32min 06sec, she finished 1min 20sec clear of Klara Kaspapova, from Russia, the runner-up.

Yet this was as near to contentment as McColgan gets unless she is winning championship medals. Given the troubles that she has been through since winning the BBC sports personality of the year award for 1991, you would have thought that she would have been delighted with her summer of '95. In her first race season since 1992, she beat her eight-year-old



Taking her place at the head of the field, McColgan lines up at the start of the Bupa Great Midland Run in Coventry yesterday

personal best for 5,000 metres and finished an admirable sixth in the world championship 10,000 metres.

Not bad, eh? "No, but it wasn't great, either," she reflected yesterday. "The way the track season went was frustrating for me because I trained a lot better than I raced."

McColgan is often accused of exaggerating her potential, but it is probably true to say that she does not do so knowingly. That she speaks through an unshakable belief in herself. Any other athlete in

her shoes would have been happy to take world rankings of eighth at 10,000 metres and twelfth at 5,000 metres after two seasons missed and more than one medical expert opinion that she would never race again.

"I definitely believe that the next two years are going to be even better for me," she said yesterday. "I can definitely go a lot better in the marathon." That word kept cropping up, perhaps because she has said before that she would turn stronger but few took notice.

Then she broke 15 minutes for 5,000 metres and now she has put together a consistent road series.

So what to expect from her next marathon, in Tokyo on November 19? She has the form and opposition to hope for a fast time and an end to the decline that has seen her progressively slower with each marathon since her 2hr 27min 32sec debut in 1991. A winning run in Tokyo would put her back in the public eye and the question whether anything said could have any bearing on the provision before the House.

Waitz, a former world marathon champion, McColgan has at last found the right coach — and she has been through a few. That Waitz has helped McColgan to curb her obsession for mileage is an encouraging sign and she has also put the Scot on three meals a day instead of two.

McColgan has a reputation for being stubborn, so how hard was it for Waitz to convince her? "Very easy, because we are very similar," McColgan said. "It is uncanny just how alike we are. I

cannot believe that there is someone else in the world who has the same thoughts as me. When we were introduced, everything she was saying, I agreed with. Everything I said, she understood."

So some good came out of McColgan's long injury period. She met Waitz through a mutual friend, Gerard Hartmann, McColgan's physical therapist in Florida, to whom she turned when other medical advice failed. Hartmann gave her back her legs and now, perhaps, the wisdom, too.

House of Lords

No tax allowance on leased plant

Mellish (Inspector of Taxes) v BMI (No 3) Ltd and related appeals
Before Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead and Lord Steyn
[Speeches October 12]

Equipment leased by the taxpayer companies to local authorities and other bodies was held not to be "plant" for the purposes of section 44(1) of the Finance Act 1971 so as to entitle them to writing-down allowances against corporation tax.

The House of Lords dismissed appeals by the companies, BMI (No 3) Ltd and four other finance companies, all subsidiaries of Barclays Mercantile Group, from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Hoffmann and Lord Justice Saville) (7 The Times August 17, 1994 [1995] Ch 90), who had allowed appeals by the Crown and cross-appeals by the taxpayer companies from Mr Justice Vinelott (The Times February 15, 1995 [1995] Ch 90). The judge had allowed in part appeals by the Crown and the taxpayer companies, who had allowed appeals by the companies against assessments to corporation tax.

The House of Lords, on appeals by the Crown, varied the order of the Court of Appeal and remitted the cases to the special commissioners for determination.

Mr Graham Aarons, QC, Mr Paul Morgan QC and Mr Stephen Jordan for the companies; Mr James Munby, QC and Mr Timothy Brennan for the Crown.

LORD BROWNE-WILKINSON said that the companies carried on the trade of acquiring and hiring out plant and machinery to users. The relevant users were local authorities who had been freeholders of the premises to which items of plant had been affixed.

The nature of the plant was such that, for the most part, it had to be affixed to the structure of the building in which it was installed so that, on being so fixed, it would be a fixture in the law. Various types of plant and machinery were involved, including central heating installed in council flats and houses.

There was a master equipment lease between each company and the local authority, entered into before the plant was purchased and relating to equipment, rent, terms and location as stated in the schedule, but the schedule was initially blank, a schedule being sub-

sequently inserted in relation to each transaction. The schedule was incorporated in and formed part of the lease.

Under the relevant terms of the lease and schedule the local authority agreed, inter alia, to return the equipment to the company on the expiry or sooner determination of the lease (clause 3.7) and the company was given the right to repossess it in the event of, inter alia, non-payment of rent and other breaches of the agreement (clause 3.8).

Clause 3.10 provided: "As between the lessor and the lessee the equipment hereby leased shall remain personal or moveable property and shall continue in the ownership of the lessor notwithstanding that the same may have been affixed to any land or building."

There was also between the company and the local authority an agency purchase facility authorising the authority to purchase goods on behalf of the company and requiring it to obtain the company's prior approval to a proposed transaction. It appeared that in practice, whether or not the company approved the purchase, the authority ordered the chattel from the supplier and caused it to be incorporated in its freehold property. It submitted an invoice to the company for the cost, including installation; the company paid the amount of the invoice and the lease schedule relating to the transaction was executed.

It was important to note that the special commissioners had found as a fact that in relation to each transaction the chattels had been affixed to the freehold property and become fixtures prior to the date on which the relevant lease schedule had been executed.

Different legislation applied to claims for capital allowances for fixtures depending on the date on which the relevant expenditure had been incurred. If it was incurred up to July 11, 1984 the position was governed by section 44 of the 1971 Act; if incurred thereafter it was regulated by section 44 as fundamentally modified and expanded by section 59 of the Finance Act 1988.

The sole question under section 44 was, under subsection (1)(b), whether the plant had at all material times been affixed to land owned by the authorities "belonging" to the companies.

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Law Report October 16 1995

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Law Report October 16 1995

Costs retainer an illegal sham

Joyce v Kammac (1995) Ltd
Before Mr Justice Morland, Master Hurst, Chief Taxing Master and Mr A. Cowan, solicitor
[Reasons September 11]

A contractual retainer which purported to make a plaintiff potentially liable to his solicitors for their pre-legal aid certificate costs was illegal, a sham and a device to circumvent the restrictions imposed by the legal aid legislation and enabled the solicitor to obtain extra costs from the defendant should the plaintiff be successful.

That was an improper use of the relaxed rule introduced by *Pepper v Hart*. It provided no assistance to a court and was capable of giving rise to much expense and delay if attempts were made to widen the category of materials that could be looked at. Judges should be astute to check such misuse by making appropriate orders as to costs wasted.

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Law Report October 16 1995

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Giants get a winning boost after departure of Gordon

By NICHOLAS HARLING

WHATEVER the rights and wrongs of Trevor Gordon's departure last week from Manchester Giants for Birmingham Bulls, his former employers will not easily adjust to the loss of their intimidating 6ft 9in England basketball forward, whose photograph still adorns their supporters' club application forms. "Have your photo taken with Trevor Gordon," it exhorts.

The legacies have not gone, it appears, even if Gordon has for reasons that, according to Mike Hanks, the Manchester coach, reached far beyond a dispute over his footwear.

Without Gordon, the Giants overcame Leicester City Riders 82-65 in front of a 3,000 crowd in the Nynex Arena on Saturday, but Hanks will hope for better than five points from John Tresvant, Gordon's replacement, who also collected four fouls.

Tresvant, an American, will qualify as an Englishman within six months, but does not particularly want to play for the national team "because there's too much hype". However, he very much wants to succeed on his return to Manchester after three years at Leicester.

After hitting the first eight points and preventing Leicester from scoring for almost three minutes, the Giants played a game of "catch us if you can". Helped by 19 points from Rich Aigner, Leicester reduced the arrears to four points in the last quarter. Only to fall away badly. Kevin St. Kitts and Mark Robinson, who collected 49 points between them, did most of the damage.

Thames Valley Tigers put their wretched beginning-of-season sequence further behind them by defeating Newcastle Comets 109-96 at Bracknell. The Comets had the game's outstanding marksmen in Russ Saunders, who contributed 38 points.

Results, page 32

Uncertain Hendry hoping for change of fortune

By PHIL YATES

STEPHEN HENDRY will be hoping that a new venue for the Skoda Grand Prix, that begins at the Crowtree Centre, Sunderland, today, changes his luck in the first domestic world ranking snooker event of the season.

The Scot should think of the tournament in a positive light. He captured the title at the Hexagon, Reading, in 1987 when still three months short of his nineteenth birthday, and was champion in 1990 when he had his cue stolen. It was the start of a series of misfortunes that blighted Hendry's chances of further Grand Prix success.

In 1992, he lost 5-2 to Tony Chappel in the first round after receiving death threats, and 12 months later, suffering with a chest infection, he lost 5-4 to Peter Ebdon in the second round. Losing to Dave Harold in the quarter-finals of the Grand Prix last year and to John Parrott in the semi-finals of the Thailand Classic ten days ago can, however, be explained only by lack of motivation.

The world champion's level of concentration will be a vital factor at Sunderland. Hendry may be helped in that respect by meeting, for the first time, for Middlesbrough, the highest ranked player from the North East, in the first round. Hendry will revel in the support that the world No 3 will attract.

Parrott, who won the event in Thailand, has never won successive tournaments since turning professional in 1983, but he played so well in Bangkok that it would be foolish to ignore him as a potential winner.

Steve Davis, Jimmy White and Ronnie O'Sullivan will be scrutinised in the early stages. Davis and White, who had poor 1994-95 seasons by their standards, want an extended run to restore confidence and O'Sullivan, cavalier on his first three appearances of the new campaign, desperately needs to sharpen his game.

Queen's Bench Division

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Bringing proceedings against doctor

Kramer v South Bedfordshire Health Care Trust
Before Mr Justice Lightman
[Judgment September 7]

It was for a community health care trust to decide whether to bring disciplinary proceedings against a doctor involving personal conduct, professional conduct or professional competence, and not for the employee or the court.

Mr Justice Lightman so held in the Chancery Division when refusing an application by Dr Susan Kramer for an injunction to restrain her employer, South Bedfordshire Health Care Trust, from proceeding with disciplinary proceedings against her.

Mr John Hendy, QC and Miss Louise Chudleigh for Dr Kramer; Mr Christopher Makey for the trust.



Changing looks: a Victorian nurse; the Lyons nippy girls, 1939; McDonald's staff in southeast London, 1974; and a modern nurse at St Thomas' Hospital, central London

Image comes out of the closet

Company clothes have a long pedigree, says Sally Bain

Clothes are a non-verbal form of communication: what you choose to put on in the morning will convey all kinds of messages about you to those you meet throughout the day. But what if your choice for work is not your own, but that of your employer in the form of a uniform, or "corporate clothing"? The message about you as an individual is submerged beneath that of what you do and for whom you work.

When they were first designed, it is likely that all uniforms made symbolic sense — those for the military, for example, were originally intended to impress and even terrify the enemy in hand-to-hand combat. Uniforms also denoted a hierarchy — chefs wore white because they worked with flour, but the main chef wore a black hat to show he supervised.

Then there was "image". On January 1, 1925, when 3,000 Lyons waitresses changed overnight from wearing a distinctly Edwardian style to that of the 1920s flappers, becoming "nippies", the public was astonished and delighted. Nippies even

had a racehorse, a railway engine, a musical and a rose named after them. Traditionally, uniforms were — and for some industries still are — manufactured to protect the worker. The past 30 years, however, have seen an increasing emphasis on their role in projecting the image of an organisation and in uniting the workforce into a homogeneous unit — particularly in the "customer-facing" industries, and especially in financial services and retailing. From uniforms and workwear has emerged corporate clothing.

According to *Company Clothing* magazine, there are 1,000 companies supplying the workwear and corporate clothing market. Of these, 22 account for 85 per cent of total sales — £380 million in 1994. Many have been established since the mid-1800s.

Today, the market is split according to how suppliers service customers. Robert Blyth, of the international management consultants, Kurt Salmon Associates, identifies five

sectors: the mail order/retail businesses, such as Alexandra Workwear and Simon Jersey, aiming mostly at small companies; the image creators, such as Compton Webb, Dewhurst, PUC and William Baird, aiming at big companies; the niche players, such as Faithful and McBean of Scotland, primarily for workwear; the service companies born out of laundry, such as Sketchley, and companies born out of knitwear, such as Russell Athletic.

In addition, some companies also offer rental services. "There will be increasing specialisation in the marketplace," predicts Mr Blyth. The past two or three years have seen consolidation. The Career and Workwear Show, which is on in London from tomorrow for three days, could boost the business, but it is likely that the number of companies will fall.

Increasingly, the big suppliers are becoming "managing agents", which

means they offer a total service to put together the whole complex operation of a company's corporate clothing package — which includes reliable sourcing, managing the inventory, budget control and distribution to either central locations or to each staff member individually. Huge investments have been made in new systems, information technology and amassing quality assurance accreditations.

According to Nicholas Jubert, a member of the family which started the Practical Uniform Company (PUC) in the mid-1800s to make uniforms for the merchant navy, the corporate image aspect was first taken up by petrol companies in the 1960s. "It was still workwear, but it had a look which projected the image of the company and which identified the staff to customers," he says. Workwear has been hit by downward employment trends, especially

in mining, manufacturing, engineering and the armed forces. But the corporate side boomed in the 1980s, and design was the buzzword, which was all very exciting. It was, however, sometimes given more priority than the logistics side of the business.

Giving the wearers a choice has become a key element in the way corporate clothing is introduced and managed. It is now the norm to involve them in the creation process, which provides a "feel-good" factor when they eventually come to wear it. All suppliers agree that this is essential — for when a look is imposed with no staff involvement, it is often a disaster, no matter how attractive the design.

Corporate clothing does have potential for further growth. Barclays and Lloyds have yet to introduce a full corporate look; police forces are researching a complete new look for the 21st century.

And many employees now welcome a company wardrobe. A recent survey of BT staff found that 90 per cent welcomed having clothing which reflected the corporate identity.



HEATH BROWN One of BT's new uniforms to be introduced next month

Uniform approach wins over staff

"A SMART uniform is important for a security guard, and Group 4's are smarter than most" begins a recent Group 4 recruitment advertisement. A curious opening line to entice potential employees but one that illustrates the importance placed by employers on good, wearable corporate clothing and uniforms.

David Dickinson, the company's sales and marketing manager, believes in issuing

the best in uniforms to attract the best employees. He adds: "Our research tells us that a smart well-fitting uniform instils a strong team spirit and gives the wearer pride in being a full member of the organisation."

The point is supported by the evidence of a recent gather-

ing of Group 4's top guards. Being from different parts of the country, they had not met before and came together as a fresh team to work at the Labour Party conference. New dress uniforms with braid and tassels were distributed and straightaway, Mr Dickinson says, the team gelled with a sense of pride.

This unified feeling is often achieved when uniformed staff are on show to all, but it can also be created by uniforms behind closed doors.

Thomas Cook has recently revamped its overall image, changing staff uniforms at its new Peterborough offices to complement a new working environment.

The sense of belonging evoked by uniforms and corporate identities is a prime justification for them. In some careers, where jobs such as cosmetics retailing can be similar from company to company, uniforms play a big part in luring away or deterring the best staff.

It is even common, say proponents of uniforms, for people to switch jobs for a better uniform or outfit. Suzanne Dingwall-Main, the managing director of Jermyn Street Designs, who works on many cosmetic company uniforms, agrees. "Women swap to other companies if a better outfit is on offer," she says. "Gone are the days of stand-up-on-their-own bri-nylon overalls. Today's new breathable and better-hanging synthetic fabrics can be made into

more clothes that are attractive and easier to wear."

Most manufacturers of corporate wear agree that the ultimate wearer of the uniform must feel good in it and therefore must be consulted to some degree on design and choice of fabric.

Involving workers creates a stronger team spirit when the final result arrives — they cannot blame anyone else if they are dissatisfied. Questionnaires to staff on preferences and practicalities are common and wearer trials are useful to avoid rejection later.

CAN WE INTEREST YOU IN A PERSONNEL ATTIREMENT PROGRAMME?

If you're looking for a smart corporate image for your staff — Marks & Spencer is your ideal business partner. Our Business Clothing catalogue is packed with ideas to create a stylish look for your company. We also offer an embroidery service and product continuity, so your business can stay looking good for years to come.

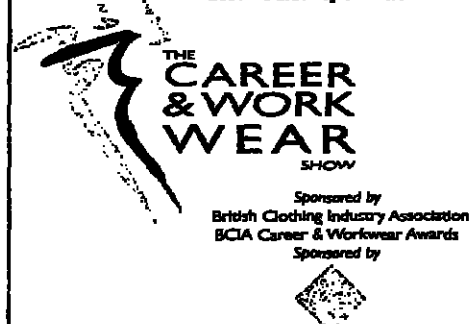


For your FREE catalogue ring 01925 66 77 77 quoting ref. BW49JR

MARKS & SPENCER

17-19 October 1995
Business Design Centre, London
The 1995 Career & Workwear Show will be Europe's largest gathering of manufacturers and designers of corporate clothing, workwear, uniforms, fabrics and accessories, with suppliers from the UK, Eire, Belgium, South Africa, Germany, Denmark, Finland, France, Portugal and the USA.

If you purchase or specify clothing for your company's employees you cannot afford to miss this unique opportunity to see the very best the industry can offer.



Europe cuts the cost-cut

Most workwear makers have welcomed stringent new European Union laws which oblige employers to provide workers with suitable protective clothing, and are prepared to report "cowboy" competitors who fall below the standards required.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) can mean anything from builders' hard hats to high visibility coats for railway workers with varying functions such as resistance to chemicals, heat, severe cold, oils etc. and with a myriad of other specific uses to be considered, all with the safety of workers uppermost.

Cutting corners to save time and money has always been a dangerous problem in this field and one that was not always fully addressed in law. Many manufacturers, espe-

cially those whose standards were already as high as those imposed this year under a European Commission directive, are pleased that other producers will no longer be able to gain commercial advantage by cutting costs.

Geoff Hook, of the British Safety Industry Federation (BSIF), says that some manufacturers and importers are ignoring the new rules but their numbers are dwindling as competitors report them to the authorities. A spokesman for one of the accredited inspection bodies said: "It has already become self-regulating. With all the time and money spent on implementing these new regulations, complying companies are more than willing to police each other."

All PPE clothing must carry a CE mark, which denotes

the cost-cutting measures taken by some manufacturers to remain competitive in the market.



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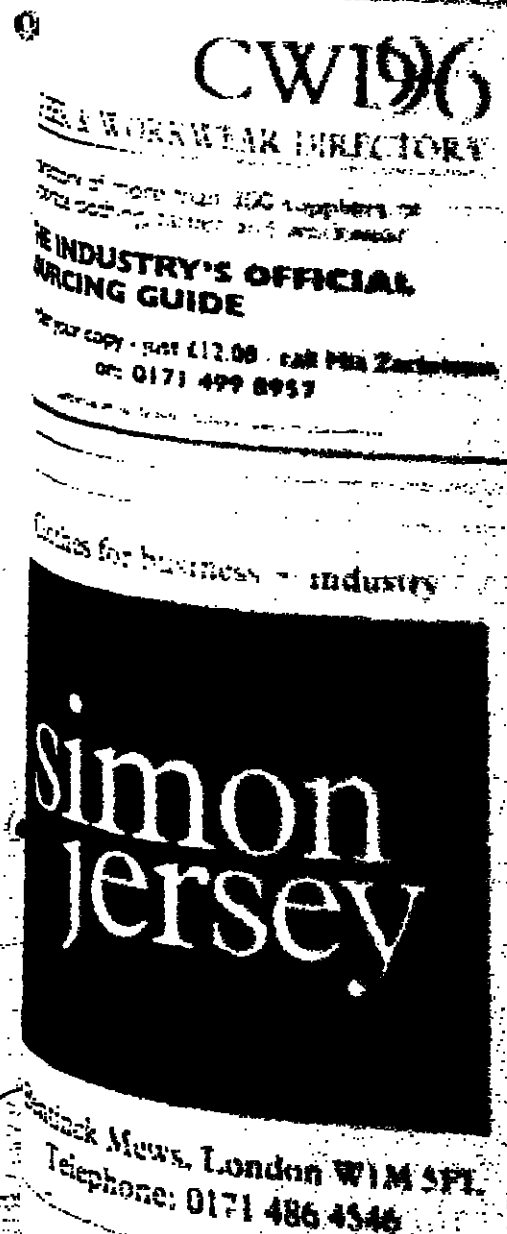
Its unique system of managing and distributing corporate clothing is well established and used by a wide range of discerning customers.

It has at its disposal the full use of the Design and Manufacturing facilities of The Wakefield Shirt Group which include Double Two Ltd and William Sugden & Sons Ltd.

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The Wakefield Shirt Group of Companies



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THE TIMES MONDAY OCTOBER 16 1995

TODAY

Interims: Beradin Holdings, Farnell Electronics, Hewlett Group, Olive Property, Padang Senang, Singapore Para Rubber, Waste Management International (Q3), London Smaller Cos Investment Trust, Final: Garmore Smaller Cos, Highland Distilleries.

TOMORROW

Interims: El Oro Mining, Exploration Co, Henry Boot & Sons, Newport Holdings, The Rack. Final: Paterson Zochonis, River & Merc Extra, Hong Kong Invests. Economic statistics: PSBR (September).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: BDA Holdings, Berry Birch & Noble, Card Clear, English National Inv Co, Havelock-Europa, Hoare-Govett 1000 Index, Hoare-Govett Smaller, Grasham House, Kymene Corp, Renown Inc, River & Merc General, Tanjong Town Centre Securities, Final: Bridport-Gundry, DFS Furniture, Ewart, Fidelity Special Values. Economic statistics: Retail sales (September), labour market statistics, claimant unemployment and unfilled vacancies (September - provisional), average earnings indices (August - provisional), employment hours, productivity and wage costs, industrial disputes, training programme participants, labour force survey rapid release (June-August).

THURSDAY

Interims: Airtow Steamline, Aminex, Fagor, Intra Holdings, Ramco Energy, Final: Albert Fisher Group, M.J. Gleeson, Wescol Group. Economic statistics: Family spending - a report on the 1994 family expenditure survey, motor vehicle production (September), engineering turnover and orders (August), financial statistics (October), building societies' monthly figures (September), provisional estimates of M4 and counter-parts (September), major British banking groups' monthly statement (September).

FRIDAY

Interims: Alida Holdings, Audax Properties, Richards, Securities Trust of Scotland, Surgard Data Systems (Q), Value & Income Trust, Warrford Investments, Final: Ramus Holdings. Economic statistics: Balance of trade with countries outside EC (September), overseas transactions of UK consultancy firms (1994).

COMPANIES

PHILIP PANGALOS

Distiller's performance lacks spirit

HIGHLAND DISTILLERIES: A relatively quiet week for corporate results begins with full-year figures from one of the biggest companies due to report.

Highland Distilleries, headed by Brian Ivory, chief executive and best known for its Famous Grouse whisky brand, is likely to unveil a mixed performance when it reports today.

The results are expected to show a muted performance overall, with only a modest increase in taxable profits and earnings per share. Market conditions remain difficult in the UK, although Highland's results will compare favourably with recent figures from Guinness for its spirits business and those from Bush Stewart.

ABN-Amro Hoare Govett has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £44 million (£42.5 million). Market forecasts range from £43 million to £45 million. The dividend, well-covered by anticipated earnings of 22.3p a share, is expected to rise to 8p (7.25p).

Profits from the key Famous Grouse brand, which accounts for about 75 per cent of Highland's total operating profits, are expected to edge up, but most of any increase is likely to have come from export growth. Single malt is thought to be performing exceptionally well, with the UK forecast to be up 11 per cent and the US by 20 per cent.

Mr Ivory will no doubt make the usual calls on the Chancellor not to raise duty on spirits in next month's Budget.

FARNELL ELECTRONICS: A combination of organic growth and acquisitions is expected to help the cash-rich electronics components manufacturer and distributor to reveal another strong advance in profits when it announces interim figures today.

Henderson Crosthwaite is looking for first-half pre-tax profits of £36 million (£28.7 million), at the top end of market forecasts ranging from £32 million to £36 million. An improved dividend of 4.4p (3.8p) is expected.

Analysts will be keen to know the progress the group has made expanding in North America, as well as how May's £30.5 million

acquisition of Combined Precision Components, the Lancashire-based specialist electronics distributor, is proceeding.

WASTE MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL: Third-quarter results later today from WMI will be the first figures under the landfill-to-rubbish disposal group's new management team, appointed in July. The results will give the new team an opportunity to paint a clearer picture of its proposed strategy.

NatWest Securities expects mixed trading and has pencilled in flat quarterly pre-tax profits of £43 million (£43.1 million). Market forecasts range from £40 million to £43 million. NatWest thinks trading remains mixed, with Wessex Water, in which WMI has a 20 per cent stake, and UK Waste both performing well, though the group's operations in France and Italy are thought still to be experiencing difficult market conditions.

THE RACK: A rise in interest receivable and the benefits of new shop openings are expected to help The Rack to a modest improvement in first-half profits when the niche retailer, specialising in ties, scarves and accessories, reports tomorrow. Joan D'Olier, smaller companies analyst at NatWest Securities, is looking for the group to lift interim pre-tax profits to about £600,000 (£407,000).

Like-for-like sales are expected to have seen only a modest improvement though the group has opened 28 stores during the first half, bringing its total of outlets to more than 350 worldwide.

Like other clothing retailers, The Rack will have been hit by the prolonged spell of hot weather, and the disruptive effects of the summer rail strikes. Analysts therefore await an update on current trading, though many expect Roy Bishko, The Rack's chairman, to sound a cautiously optimistic note on prospects in the run-up to the key Christmas period.

HENRY BOOT: Tomorrow's interim figures from the



Market pressures: Brian Ivory's Highland Distilleries is expected to reveal a mixed year

housebuilding and construction group will give the market a clearer picture of the housing market, where fears persist that little improvement is likely in the near term. UBS expects pre-tax profits to climb to £2.8 million (£2.6 million) with an improved dividend of 2.05p (1.85p).

DFS FURNITURE: Wednesday's full-year figures from DFS, the furniture retailer and manufacturer, will provide a clearer insight into the state of consumer spending power and willingness to spend on household goods. The

Doncaster group is expected to buck the gloomy trend after enjoying a strong first half. Final pre-tax profits are expected to rise to £26 million (£22.7 million), according to Kleinwort Benson, with a dividend of 8.2p (7.2p) forecast. Attention will focus on operating margins, as well as current trading and prospects.

ALBERT FISHER GROUP: Thursday's full-year figures from the international food processor and distributor should provide evidence of recovery in North America, where benefits are ex-

pected from stronger product prices, and modest progress in Europe where processing is up. However, cost pressures may take a toll on the group. The seafood operations may be disappointing, reflecting rising raw material costs.

Julian Hardwick at BZW has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £39 million (£34.2 million) before exceptional items. A £6.5 million exceptional charge on disposals is expected to pull the headline figure down to £32.5 million (£34.8 million). A flat dividend of 3.75p (3.71p) is forecast.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Colouring the Budget

The mid-month bouquet of domestic statistics should provide debating points for Parliament, which reconvenes today, and be of intense interest to the Treasury, which is colouring in the economic background for next month's Budget. The weaker the economy and public finances, the more cause the Chancellor has to cut taxes and the less resources to do it.

Germany's Bundesbank could provide relief on Thursday if it cuts interest rates to counter the mark's strength against the French franc - a possible rather than a probable. After last Friday's UK inflation blip, there will probably be no UK response at the November 1 monetary meeting, and Thursday's figure for growth in M4, the wide measure of money supply, is likely to advance further towards the top of its 3.9 per cent range. Over the summer, this became the Treasury's main residual inflation worry.

MMS International reports the median market forecast as a 0.5 per cent monthly rise, taking year-on-year M4 growth from 8.5 to 8.6 per cent, though MMS itself expects 8.7 per cent.

After August's hefty £4.6 billion public sector borrowing requirement, forecasts vary widely from £2.8 billion to £5 billion for September. With taxes shaky, the median is for another £4 billion on Tuesday.

Retail sales were also gloomy in August, falling 0.8 per cent in the hot spell. A moderate rebound is expected for September in line with the CBI survey. Forecasts range from 0.2 to 1 per cent; the median 0.6 per cent gain would leave a year-on-year volume rise of just 0.5 per cent. Also on Wednesday, dole-watchers expect the Government to have avoided a rise in official unemployment again. Forecasts vary, the median a 5,000 drop after August's 18,000. Annual earnings growth is expected to have stayed at 3.25 per cent in August. That compares with a 4.3 per cent rise in the tax and prices index: hence those Budget hopes.

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

SUNDAY TIPS

Independent on Sunday: Buy Havelock Europa; Sell Royal Bank of Scotland; Avoid Sterling Publisher. *The Sunday Telegraph:* Buy Symonds Engineering; Pelican; Hold APT; The Observer; Speculative Buy Edinburgh Oil & Gas; Hold Boots; Sell Eitam; The Sunday Times: Buy Babcock; Hold Cadbury; Tarmac. *The Mail on Sunday:* Buy Hicking Pentecost; Edinburgh Oil & Gas; Sell Leeds Group.

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London	Florence	20.25 22.40 17.45	6/week
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Tesco give Clubcard customers the bird

By SARAH BAGNALL

THE supermarket Christmas battle has started with Tesco offering its Clubcard members a free frozen turkey.

The annual attempt by supermarket groups to woo customers to their stores at the most lucrative time of year usually involves significant discounts on several items, including turkey and bread. The cost to the retailers from selling these products at a loss is more than offset by the large average spending by customers for the festive period.

Tesco is offering its six million Clubcard customers a free 10lb (4.5kg) turkey, worth £2.90. To qualify, customers have to collect 40 Clubcard points over the next four weeks. This requires shoppers to spend £200, unless they are pensioners or students, where £100 is the requirement. Tesco is also reducing the cost of frozen standard turkeys from 69p per pound to 29p per pound.

John Gildersleeve, a Tesco director, said: "We have heard a lot of talk of price wars from others, but at Tesco it's a no-nonsense offer — as cheap as anybody and a free bird for a loyal customer. We believe they will be delighted."

The low price last year was 38p per pound for a standard frozen turkey and the price is currently 79p per pound. The price from today is 29p per pound — 63p per kilo.

Last year in the Christmas supermarket wars Tesco gave free sprouts to customers buying potatoes for Christmas.

Trend towards flexible workforce leads to rise of the part-timer

Full-time staff to become a minority

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S biggest companies are forecasting that more than half their workers will be temporary or part-time within five years, while a separate survey shows that demand for temporary staff in the UK is at its highest level.

The surveys come in advance of the latest official unemployment figures on Wednesday, and confirm the increasing trend towards full-time labour market flexibility which ministers want to see.

The Government hopes that the jobs figures will show a further fall in seasonally adjusted unemployment, though ministers are aware that current volatility in the labour market could lead in any one month to a rise.

Before that, two surveys today offer new evidence of greater labour market flexibility and in particular an increase in the use of temporary and part-time workers.

A study of the longer-term employment strategies of some of the UK's biggest companies shows that flexible working is now an essential component of business planning and operation.

The survey, carried out by the Institute of Management and Manpower, the employment service company, shows that 47 per cent of the companies surveyed believe that the majority of their workforce will be core full-time employees within five years.

Citing this as evidence of a trend towards a "wholly" flexible labour market, the study predicts a rise over the next year in all forms of alternative working patterns, and says that as many as 90 per cent of the UK's leading employers already use part-time and temporary workers to some extent.

Forecasting continuing job losses, the IM/Manpower survey also notes a sharp reverse in what seemed to be a trend a year ago of hiring older work-

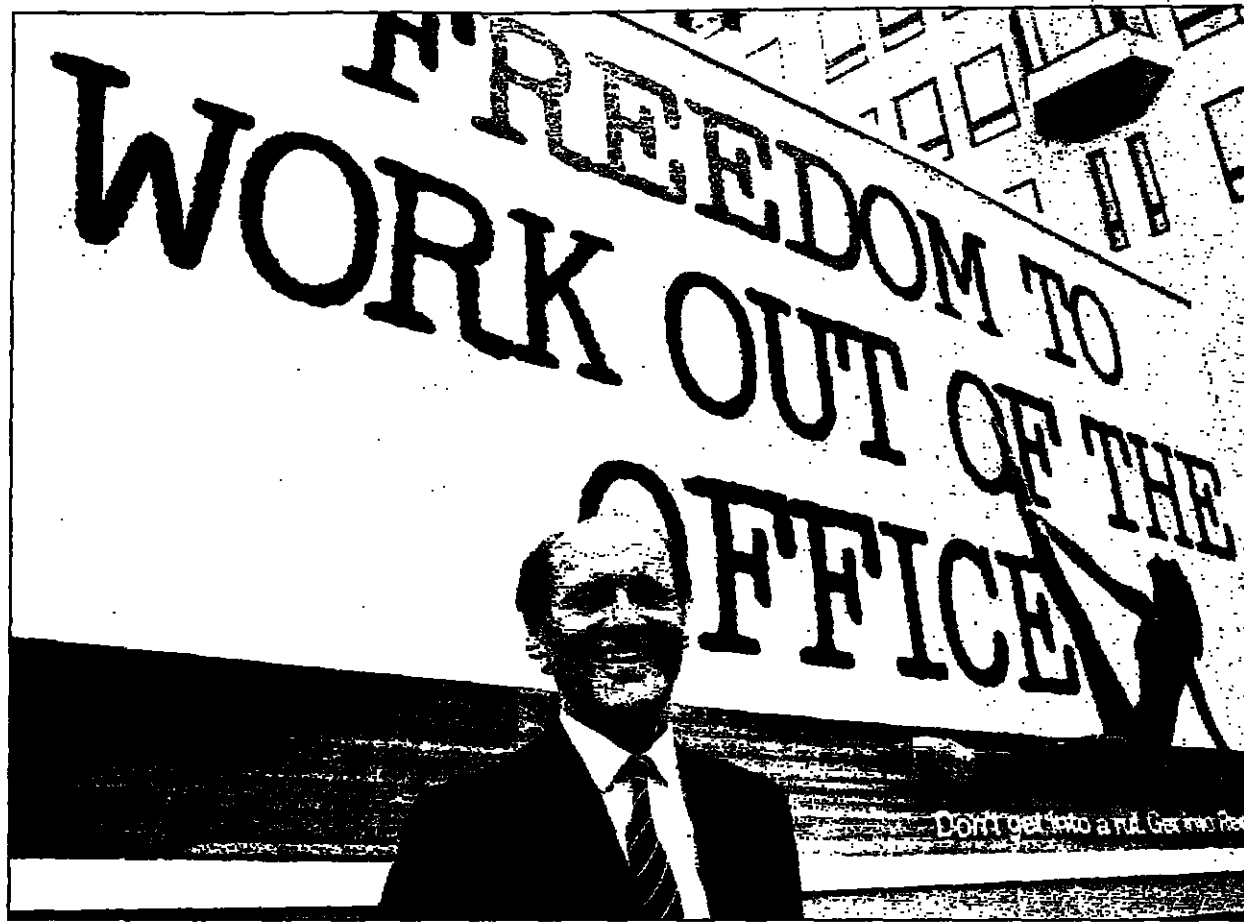
ers, which, it suggests, may be as a result of the companies examined only pay lip service to the idea and not carrying it out in practice.

In a separate survey, the Reed employment agency says today that demand for temporary staff has reached its highest level in the UK since the company began keeping records on it.

In its latest temporary employment index, Reed says demand for temporary workers is now almost a fifth higher than at the height of the economic boom in the third quarter of 1989, and that demand for temporary staff is rising year on year by a quarter.

Reed says that present trends suggest that while it could be two years before the permanent job market recovers to 1990 levels, demand for temporary staff is set to continue to rise.

Alex Reed, the company's founder and executive chairman, says: "The flexible workforce is undoubtedly good for companies and good for agencies — although he adds that "individuals are being short-changed" because temporary and similar workers do not receive benefits comparable to those automatically provided for permanent staff.



Alex Reed says the flexible workforce is good for companies though he adds that individuals are being short-changed.

Dobson Park results likely to lift bid

By MARTIN BARROW

THE £170 million transatlantic battle for control of Dobson Park Industries will intensify this week when the British manufacturer of coal mining equipment is expected to unveil a sharp rise in annual profits.

Analysts expect Dobson Park to report pre-tax profits of about £13 million for the year to September 30, up from £10 million previously. But Adrian Buckmaster, chief executive for just eight months, will emphasise that the

results do not yet fully reflect the recovery at Longwall International, Dobson Park's coal mining equipment subsidiary since February.

The results, and the promise of further significant growth this year, will increase pressure on America's Harrischfeger Industries to raise substantially its current offer, worth 110p a share. On Friday, the shares closed at 125p, with the market discounting an increased bid, possibly this week.

Harrischfeger wants to integrate

Longwall International with its own coal face equipment manufacturer, Joy Mining Machinery. The companies make complementary equipment with Longwall dominant in the market for roof supports and conveyors.

Mr Buckmaster has described the takeover bid as "opportunistic and unwelcome". Dobson Park had new management and was integrating Longwall. The message had not yet filtered through to the City, which still perceived the company as a dismal failure — profits had collapsed from

£19.5 million in 1992 and diversification into unrelated businesses, such as toys, had proved a financial disaster.

Only last year, the shares traded at a low of 68p. Yet, after a spirited defence, the City is now looking for an increased offer of at least 135p a share, with some forecasting a knockout bid of 150p, valuing the business at £235 million. Dobson Park's hand has been strengthened by recent contract successes in the UK and overseas. The company has gained orders worth £46 million since the bid was made.

Trading prospects promising

LAST week saw continued interest from both institutional and private investors in companies traded on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM), the market for smaller and growing companies that succeeds both the Unlisted

Securities Market and the Stock Exchange's now defunct Rule 42 matched bargain trading facility. No new companies joined AIM last week, but prospects remain promising for the new market with 97 companies

listed compared with just ten when it was launched in June. AIM's total market capitalisation has grown to £1.65 billion and cash raised stands at £29.7 million.

Interest in the smaller and medium-sized companies which typically trade on AIM and Oref, the new non-regulated exchange that started two weeks ago, will be reflected in this week's Singer and Friedlander Company Investor Show.

John Breckon, one of the organisers, said that inquiries ahead of Thursday's one-day event featuring smaller-scale companies were well up on previous years.

PHILIP PANGALOS

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Guinness Peat takes legal action over shares

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

GUINNESS PEAT is preparing to do battle in court this week with Ampolex, the Australian oil group, in a £500 million (£50 million) dispute over its convertible preference shares.

The argument, which begins in court in Australia on Friday, centres on the rate at which Ampolex's convertible notes should be converted into ordinary shares. Guinness Peat, the group headed by Sir Ron Brierley, which acquired six million of the notes earlier this year, claims that they should be converted into Ampolex ordinary shares at the rate of 6.6 for 1, as printed on the certificates. However, Ampolex argues that the wording is a mistake and that an amendment to the trust deed relating to the notes three years ago means that the notes are convertible on a one for one basis.

Ampolex last month raised the stakes by alleging that Guinness Peat and County NatWest, the broker, had breached insider trading rules over their purchase of the notes. In its petition to the court, Ampolex says that Guinness Peat "knew or ought to have known" that Ampolex had made a mistake on the original trust deed, saying "had the insider information been generally available, a reasonable person would have expected it to have a material effect on the price or value of securities in Ampolex".

If the claim by Guinness Peat is successful, the group will end up with nearly 40 million ordinary shares in Ampolex, representing a 9 per cent stake, once all its six million preference shares are converted.

Meanwhile, Sir Ron has dismissed Ampolex's claim of insider trading as "absolute rubbish".

Bank	Buy	Sell
Australia S	2.18	2.02
Austria S	18.75	18.95
Belgium F	18.00	18.25
Canada S	2.21	2.06
Cyprus Cyp	0.750	0.885
Denmark D	8.38	8.48
France F	7.31	6.86
Germany D	8.50	7.25
Greece Dr	362.00	367.00
Hong Kong S	1.02	1.15
India Ru	8.125	8.125
Israel S	6.125	4.475
Italy Lira	2815.00	2815.00
Japan Yen	172.00	156.00
Malta	0.587	0.542
Netherlands G	2.65	2.48
New Zealand S	2.52	2.30
Norway Kr	10.42	9.82
Poland Zlot	246.00	227.50
Spain Ptas	161.75	161.75
Sweden Kr	1.54	1.42
Switzerland F	1.94	1.76
Turkey Lira	7597.0	7597.0
UK S	1.00	1.00

Notes for bank conversion rates only as supplied by Reuters Bank plc. Data may vary slightly from actual rates.

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THE TIMES GALAXY TOKEN 2

THE TIMES MONDAY OCTOBER 16 1995

BMW in chase for Bugatti

BMW's management board chairman, the German carmaker that last year acquired Rover, could soon add Bugatti to his growing stable of high performance marques.

Bugatti Automobili's official receiver in Modena, Italy has disclosed that a lawyer representing a client in Munich, understood to be BMW, has expressed interest in buying the Bugatti operation. Herr Pischetsrieder has made clear his passion for the make.

Lotus, the UK sports car arm of Bugatti International, based in Luton, has said that it is unaffected by the Modena court decision last month to initiate insolvency proceedings against Bugatti.

Exit SNC

Today marks the end of an era for the City of London as the respected name of Smith New Court is officially swallowed up by Merrill Lynch.

The Smith Brothers name first hit the City in 1929, remained independent during 1986's Big Bang deregulation of the Square Mile, but was the subject of a £526 million agreed bid in July. It is the latest leading UK securities firm to come under foreign ownership and follows recent deals between SBC and SG Warburg, Dresdner Bank and Kleinwort Benson and ING and Barings.

Board fight

Roberto Schisano, chief executive of Alitalia, the troubled Italian national carrier, is this week set for a showdown with IRI, the state holding group that owns the airline and wants Signor Schisano out. A board meeting has been called for Thursday. Signor Schisano, brought in to prepare Alitalia for privatisation, has cut its losses but has been dogged by industrial disputes.



Selfridge's opened its refurbished children's department yesterday in Oxford Street as part of its £60 million improvements. Kids' Universe brings together toys, clothes and shoes, and has changing and restroom facilities for babies and young children with access for both mothers and fathers.

Survey finds companies at risk over derivatives

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

A LARGE number of companies are putting themselves at risk by a stubborn lack of control over derivatives.

Fewer than half of companies that regularly use derivatives exercise sufficient controls to manage the complex and volatile financial instruments. Such is the warning from a report based on interviews with nearly 400 companies in 16 countries.

The survey on international treasury standards, conducted by Price Waterhouse Management Consultants, found that many treasury departments of large companies were not fully hedging their exposures and that they were lagging developments in risk management.

Of the leading companies questioned, three-quarters used derivatives — instruments whose value is linked to the performance of an underlying financial commodity, such as equities, equity indices, currency or interest rates — on a regular basis.

David Knight, Price Waterhouse spokesman, said: "Given the catalogue of highly publicised treasury disasters over recent years, it is worrying that so many major companies have yet to apply effective controls to their treasury operations."

The companies are falling well short of best practice standards recommended by the international G30 Derivatives Group and also of the Cadbury Report on corporate governance. Mr Knight said: "This is exposing companies to real risks."

A lack of information from treasury departments was highlighted in the report. In one in two of those questioned the board did not receive regular management information on treasury activity and in nearly a third of cases the board did not formally approve treasury policy.

Mr Knight said that the growing complexity of risk management meant that it was imperative for directors to become more aware of treasury functions and activities. He added: "Many treasuries are moving into more sophisticated risk management activities. If this trend is to continue, boards will have to wake up to ensure that proper controls and systems are applied to support these activities."

Apart from a lack of accountability by treasury departments, the report also found that in many companies the financial technology used was woefully inadequate. Fewer than half of those surveyed said they maintained treasury records and position data on recognised computer package systems.

Despite the risks, the companies suggested they were still reluctant to invest in new technology.

Row over hotel funding

A HOTEL planned for Liverpool has prompted a row among hoteliers over the allocation of £4 million in grants (Christine Buckley writes).

Swallow Hotels intends to build a £14 million, 147-room hotel in Queens Square, an area undergoing substantial regeneration. But Britannia Hotels and a number of smaller hotels have hit out at the award of grants from the European Objective funding and English Partnerships, the development agency that has taken over responsibility for city centre projects from the Environment Department.

The allocation has not yet been made formally, after a series of objections, although it is imminent, according to Liverpool City Challenge which brokered the deal.

Robert Ferrari, finance director of Britannia Hotels, complained that Liverpool's hotel market was in such a dull state that a new one should not attract public funds. "Public money should not be going on a development such as this. It should be spent on a project that is likely to benefit a greater number of people rather than a prosperous hotel company."

But Liverpool City Challenge, the regeneration agency annexed to Liverpool City Council, said that the development of the area in which the new hotel will be sited is largely dependent on the arrival of the hotel.

Stimulation not inflation is the target

If the signals from the financial market are currently to be believed, the next move is for an increase in the base rate. The short-term interest rate futures market is discounting rates of over 7 per cent in less than a year's time, 8 per cent 12 months later and nearer 8.75 per cent in 1998.

The new pessimism arises because, in a short space of time, the markets have had to absorb a jump in the RPI to its highest level in over three years, as well as a clear lack of investor demand for UK government debt at the recent auction and the re-emergence of political risk as an important factor. The defection to Labour of Alan Howarth, MP, raises the possibility that the Government will not see out its full term of office given the steady reduction in its majority.

If most of this sounds familiar, it is because it reads like a rerun of negative economic scenarios for the UK economy that have been widely touted over the past few years. Add in the current overshoot on the public sector borrowing requirement and a renewed widening of the trade gap and these are the main ingredients of the repeated crises that have dogged the UK financial markets in the modern era.

But that was then. The key problem for the UK economy currently is not that it is overheating, or that the public sector is bloated. Rather, it is that economic activity is too weak, that the consumer sector remains depressed by low real income growth and job insecurity, that investment is lacklustre, that construction is still in recession and that export activity has run out of steam. As a result, inflation worries will prove to be a mirage. Indeed, our projections look for "headline" RPI inflation to drop just below 2 per cent by spring 1996.

The main danger is that, without some new stimulus, the odds of falling into a recession escalate sharply. The Government's indicated policy response — no move on interest rates and perhaps £2 billion to £3 billion off taxes in the Budget — is wholly inadequate and misplaced. Without raising the overall level of activity in the economy, tax cuts alone would simply lead to an increase in gov-

ernment borrowing over the short term.

Britain is alone, with the exception of France as it attempts to defend the franc, in not cutting interest rates this year. Kenneth Clarke should cut interest rates now. If rates are not down by at least 1 per cent by the end of the year, the Chancellor will find the economy in much deeper trouble.

An habitual error among the UK economic forecasting fraternity is to believe that the UK represents an exception to the general trend in the world economy. This year, interest rates have fallen in the United States, Germany and Japan, along with a host of other OECD economies. But the consensus is that UK rates will rise.

If the conventional wisdom on interest rates seems misplaced, the consensus with regard to sterling seems spectacularly wrong. Consensus forecasts are notoriously unambitious with regard to currencies.

But so convinced are the pundits about the imminence of a surge in the US dollar that the consensus view is the £/S rate will plummet to 1.37 next year — an extreme forecast likely to be completely wrong. The reality is likely to be somewhat different. There are two clearly established trends that have determined sterling's fortunes in the post-ERM world.

The first is that it closely tracks the US dollar. The second is that the dollar is in a long-term decline against the world's hard currencies, the Swiss franc, the mark and the yen.

These trends are likely to remain in place, despite the best efforts of the central banks, given America's record trade deficit and its status as the world's biggest net debtor.

This will all benefit the UK over the medium term as long as policymakers do the right thing and can manage their obsession with inflation targeting. A weaker currency versus Europe can encourage export growth and encourage direct inward investment, while lower interest rates will remove the shackles that have dragged the domestic economy for so long.

NEIL MACKINNON
AND MICHAEL BURKE
Cinbank

GILT-EDGED

Utilities under scrutiny

THE Hansard Society and the European Policy Forum have enlisted a group of senior executives, academics and former politicians to launch a commission of inquiry into the regulation of privatised utilities (Eric Reguly writes).

The inquiry comes at a time of upheaval among electricity, water, gas, telecoms and railway sectors. The commission is led by John Fleming, former chief economist of the Bank of England. Other members include John Baker, chief executive of National Power; Sir Bryan Carsberg, former Director-General of Fair Trading; David Young, finance director of the John Lewis Partnership; Margaret Sharp, senior research fellow in the science policy unit of Sussex University; and Peter Riddell, political columnist at *The Times*. Their report will be published late next year.

Bank of England. Other members include John Baker, chief executive of National Power; Sir Bryan Carsberg, former Director-General of Fair Trading; David Young, finance director of the John Lewis Partnership; Margaret Sharp, senior research fellow in the science policy unit of Sussex University; and Peter Riddell, political columnist at *The Times*. Their report will be published late next year.

Clarke launches panel to promote the City

By MARTIN WALLER

A COLLECTION of the great and the good, including Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Lord Sheppard of Grand Metropolitan, are meeting today to launch the City Promotion Panel, the Chancellor's umbrella body to trumpet the virtues of the Square Mile to potential clients overseas.

The group will also promote the Scottish financial institutions and the rest of the UK's financial services industry. The participants will meet at the Treasury this afternoon to generate discussion on how to improve overseas marketing of financial services.

Absentees will be Anthony Nelson, the Minister for Trade, who is in Oman, and Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, who is represented by Howard Davies, his deputy.

Among those who will be there are Sir Brian Pearce, chairman of British Invisibles, and representatives from brokers and banks. Lord Sheppard is there as chairman of London First, which promotes London to potential investors.

The panel is not being welcomed with open arms by all its constituent parts, however. Treasury insiders admit that officials there are "not



Lord Sheppard will attend as head of London First

wildly enthused" by the Chancellor's initiative, while various City institutions have privately questioned the necessity of central government interference in their affairs.

The Treasury insists the new body is designed to co-ordinate the promotion of financial services abroad and to ensure effort is not wasted by duplication. In the past, the Department of Trade and Industry or its predecessors have performed the same service for other sectors of the British economy, and Mr Clarke is expected to make it clear today that this is a role he sees for the Treasury playing in relation to the City.

Mr Clarke announced the scheme in July. Officials acting for the Panel have been in talks with City institutions in recent months, and they claim the clear message is that those institutions felt the lack of a single body promoting the financial sector as a whole.

WORD-WATCHERS

Answers from page 33

ANTABUSE

(b) You might suppose, at first sight, that this word describes molestation and unkind persecution of the Formicidae. However, it refers to the molestation and redemption of alcoholics by the administration of a drug with the above trade name, which associates the consumption of alcohol with pain, grief and other most unpleasant consequences.

PETARD

(b) A small mine or explosive device, used by engineers in the Middle Ages to undermine castle walls, break down drawbridges, etc. From the French *petard* a fart, *petre* to break wind. The man who knows his Onions (the Shakespeare glossaries) will be familiar with the use in *Hamlet*, III, 4: "For 'tis the sport to have the engineer Hoist with his own petard."

ANFRACUOUS

(a) Infricate or circuitous, as of rivers in Virgil, or transferred to describe devious and not straightforward in humans. From the Latin. "Sit down, Timothy, I realise that you are wondering why we have decided to sack you, or delay you, as we say these days. And I want you to know that I mean to give you the most anfracuous explanation possible."

REGELATION

(a) Freezing together again, after having melted apart. A useful word for Alaskans, since ice may do this when it is subject to changing pressures. From the Latin *re-* again + *gelu* ice. "So Deirdre and Henry are together again? Ten years after their divorce, eh? Fancy that! Are they going to have a regelation ceremony?"

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Q97+, continuing the attack. If 1 Qxa8 then 1... Qg4 threatens mate on g2 and attacks the bishop on d4.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar 1.5724 (-0.0089)
German mark 2.2473 (-0.0089)
Exchange index 84.5 (-0.6)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 2628.6 (+15.7)
FT-SE 100 3568.0 (+41.5)
New York Dow Jones 4793.78 (+24.57)
Tokyo Nikkei Avg 17880.83 (-625.45)

COLLECT FIVE TOKENS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN THE NEWEST CONCEPT IN MODERN MOTORING



Win the new Galaxy GLX

THE FORD GALAXY is the newest concept in modern motoring and *The Times*, in association with Ford, is giving you the chance to win the GLX.

The Galaxy is the ultimate flexible four wheels on the road to suit your life-style; a load carrier for the DIY fanatic, the school run vehicle, the executive car, the motorway cruiser, or the vehicle that tugs up and down mountains for a weekend jaunt.

All you have to do to win the seven-seater Galaxy GLX 2.0i (rtp £18,000) is collect five out of seven tokens to be printed in *The Times* daily until Saturday, October 21 and attach them to the official application form which will be printed on Saturday.

If you want to see the car it will be on display on stand P6 at the London Motor Show, Earls Court, October 18-29. If you cannot get to the show, ring the Ford Information Service 0345 833 833 and you will be sent information on the Galaxy.

The competition closes on Tuesday, November 21, 1995. The winner will be drawn at random from all entries received by that date.

For your chance to win send your entry to: *The Times*/Galaxy Competition, 30, Bourville St, London EC8B 4NG. Normal *Times* Newspapers competition rules apply.



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After Glasgow, Brighton and Blackpool, it's not far to the Budget. The quest is to cut state spending below 40 per cent of national income — or to achieve more with it. Kenneth Clarke has two friends to help him to pass the post: an accounting wheeze will squeeze the proportion by 0.5 per cent and withholding unallocated reserves should make that up to 1 per cent. Higher economic growth next year would help too.

To make serious inroads into public spending that last, he needs to shrink the social security bill back to size. Since 1979, welfare spending has almost doubled in real terms, after taking out the effects of inflation, and now makes up 31 per cent of all public spending.

Don't blame retired people. In spite of rising numbers, the real cost of basic state pensions has grown only a fifth and has fallen relative to national income. Don't blame children. The bill for child benefit, the other big universal transfer, has fallen in real terms. There are fewer children. And these make up less than 40 per cent of the total. The rest, mainly means-tested benefits for the unemployed and working poor, have rocketed into the fiscal stratosphere.

All the realism of the party conferences, the menacing talk of making the system affordable, misses this point. Reforms, redesigns and re-

How Ken can cut welfare costs: cut tax for the poor



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

trenchments have been tried. But cash saved in one area pours out in another. Do not even count on the latest tough cuts in unemployment benefit, which are budgeted to turn the tide. The lesson of 15 years is that means-tested benefits mushroom because more people need them, not because they are over-generous, overrun by artful scroungers or by the modern fraudster. Hit fraud, but the bill can only be pushed steadily back down if fewer people need help.

Business, promised unprecedented Whitehall consultation, would be more impressed if every ministry tested the impact of policy on welfare bills. How many price reforms, defence cuts or pit closures have just dumped costs into the social security dustbin? The Treasury is the worst culprit. Switching from direct taxes to taxes on goods has raised public spending by at least 1 per cent of national income, via knock-on effects on pensions and benefit rates. Serial unemployment causes growing poverty and more welfare spending. So the company tax system

should not tax jobs and make sackings deductible. If officials do not apply this welfare test to policy, it is hardly surprising that social security ratchets up the tax burden.

The barometer budgetary of all is to tax incomes of people who then need benefits because tax has made them poor. Yet we do this to millions, especially to families with one earner. A would-be breadwinner earning £140 a week at £3.50 an hour — the bare minimum for a Labour minimum wage — should

not be paying income tax and National Insurance at 30 per cent, the best part of £1,000 a year. Where a family has two children, there is little gain in taxing a single earner's pay below about £220 per week. Yet such families could be paying £2,000 a year, recouped in benefits.

This can be intellectually rational. The Institute of Fiscal Studies says that the tax system aims to raise revenue according to income, not other circumstances, claiming dubiously that this avoids labour market distortions. "This is not to say that the State must be blind to individuals' family circumstances but the income tax system is unlikely to be the most effective means of compensating for them," the IFS says. "If specific groups are to be targeted for help, the social security system has many appropriate tools."

You cannot hold this view, however, if you think the absolute tax burden matters and that public spending should fall below 40 per cent of national income, as John Major and Kenneth Clarke claim to

do. They should fix taxes on modest incomes that reflect family needs.

If income tax is to be cut, raising tax-free allowances helps those on below-average incomes better than cuts in tax rates. But single-earner families have the least allowance per person. That is why so many need benefits and make little cash gain from working. Making spouses' personal allowances fully transferable would undermine the 1990 independent taxation reform. Making them transferable only if one spouse could not use them, for lack of income, would cost £3 billion, the amount of tax the IFS reckons the Chancellor can afford to cut next month. But it could be tricky.

Instead, the Chancellor could follow many Tory conference speakers by rebuilding the married couple's tax allowance, which has been frozen at £1,720 and restricted to 15 per cent in a politically correct plan to phase it out. Doubling the allowance to match personal allowances and counting it against 20 per cent tax would cost about £3.3 billion — much less if the extra was only for couples with children.

This targeting would exclude millions and not even make poor families much better off. But it would allow large numbers to be independent of benefit, improve incentives and start most effectively to take a benign axe to welfare costs.

British need to ride the Tigers

The East is where opportunities lie. Ross Tieman reports

The soap packets and toothpaste tubes of any Jakarta market offer a guide to the changing face of Asia's economic revolution. Alongside Omo and Colgate are dozens of new brands, as slickly wrapped as their Western counterparts, from Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia.

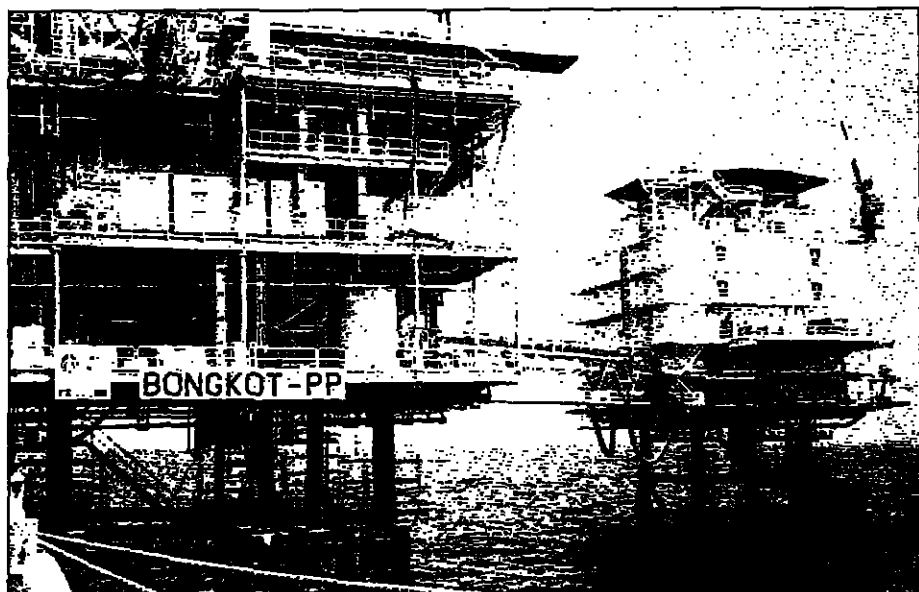
While Western cars and clothes still carry maximum caché with Asia's seriously rich, mass market staples of a modern lifestyle are increasingly sourced from local suppliers. Trade within the region now accounts for 47 per cent of exports by countries in Pacific Asia. A decade ago it was only 30 per cent. In five years' time it is expected to top 60 per cent.

The remarkable growth of the "tiger" economies of South Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan was founded on the cut-price manufacture of electronics goods exported to the West. But some of these countries now enjoy average

income per head on a par with the West: GDP per head in Hong Kong and Singapore is forecast to comfortably exceed Australia's US\$19,635 this year. Both Taiwan and South Korea can match half that figure. Last year, the Asia-Pacific region, from China to India, and including Japan, accounted for 27 per cent of world gross domestic product.

Western Europe made up 30 per cent, and the US, Canada and Mexico 27 per cent. But Asia-Pacific has three billion inhabitants, some 57 per cent of the world's total, and economic growth rates far higher than the developed Western economies. Six countries in the region are expected to record a rise in GDP of more than 8 per cent this year: China, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam. Even laggards such as the Philippines are close to 6 per cent, while the West struggles to achieve half that.

The widening of economic



British Gas has 40 projects in the region, including the Bongkot gas field off Thailand

growth, and increasing economic maturity of the Tigers, is leading to a structural shift. The region's industrial base is becoming broader and deeper. Indigenous entrepreneurs are setting up factories to supply local markets. This has profound implications for companies in the West. Japan used to regard Pacific Asia as its private backyard. But many of the industries and the skills needed to supply Asia's growing internal market are those where the West still retains an edge over its Japanese counterparts: businesses such as

infrastructure, process plant and financial services.

During the next ten years, according to the World Bank, some US\$700 billion to \$1,000 billion of infrastructure investment is needed in the region. Most will be funded by the private sector. Consortia made up of local investors and Western equipment manufacturers will design, build and operate power stations, water purification plants, ports and roads, handing over ownership only when the cost has been recovered, together with a profit appropriate to the perceived scale of political risk.

American utilities and equipment manufacturers have been quick off the mark. But some British companies are hard on their heels. British Gas has 40 projects in the region, ranging from oil exploration in Cambodia to licensing its technology in Japan. Most telling, though, is its involvement in construction of gas-fired power stations, in the Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia. National Power and PowerGen, Britain's two leading privatised power generators, are also in the race to build power plants, with a handful of projects signed and

dozens under discussion. On their cost tails ride the manufacturers, companies such as Rolls-Royce and GEC Alsthon, and their suppliers, plus British banks and specialist financiers and insurers.

Britain's civil engineers, consultants and water utilities are equally active. Cable and Wireless is joining the race to improve communications, announcing a link with Nippon Telegraph & Telephone to promote Japan's Personal HandypHONE System of mobile phones throughout the region.

Demand for a widening range of chemicals, in growing volumes, is encouraging investment by the likes of ICI, Rhône-Poulenc, and their US counterparts, in growing competition with chemical companies that have sprung up in Japan, Taiwan and Korea.

The seven-nation Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean) made up of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, has pledged to cut tariff barriers to 5 per cent, creating a free-trade market with as many consumers as the European Union.

Rhône-Poulenc, of France, long active in the region through May & Baker, its British pharmaceuticals arm, aims to increase local production from 30 per cent of sales in the region last year to 60 per cent by the year 2000. The Asean chemicals market is already worth US\$17.3 billion, says Jean-Marc Bruel, Rhône's vice-chairman. That may be 5 per cent of world chemical demand today, but growth, at 8-10 per cent a year, makes it a key market for the future.

The qualities of speed and courageous decision-making have been absent from British industry for much of the postwar era. Yet, there is now evidence of a new-found determination to compete overseas among leaders of both Britain's manufacturing and service sectors. Success in Asia, as much as in Britain, will be the litmus test of the ability of British industry to prosper in an era of globalisation.

Can you honestly remember anyone playing Chartered Accountants?



By Royal disappointment

THE rolling hills and heather of Balmoral, 45 miles west of Aberdeen, make it a residence fit for a Queen, but not when it comes to making a royal mobile phone call. When Vodafone received a request that someone pop in to see if the Queen's cellular coverage could be improved, an engineer was at her door quicker than a startled corgi. Royal Landrovers roamed the grounds in search of a spot for a tall mast, but when one was at last found, and the Queen saw how high it would have to be, HM said no to the unsightly blot on her landscape.

THE fast-talking financial PR, Jonathan Benda, will tonight demonstrate his manual dexterity by conjuring and playing cards at a Mansion House reception hosted by the Lord Mayor of London to mark the mayor's charity appeal for the British Heart Foundation.

Spreading joy

IF YOU were worrying about the state of the world economy, relax. The peanut-butter index says everything is OK. Edwin Arndt, chairman of Procter & Gamble, which makes the spread, told a group of top businessmen in Williamsburg, Virginia, that people always buy less meat and get their protein from eating peanut butter whenever a recession



threatens. Fortunately, the peanut-butter index is normal — sales of the spread are currently flat.

Bolted meal

CHRIS WRIGHT, chairman of Chrysalis Group and the man behind the launch of London's Heart 106.2 FM, was enjoying a leisurely lunch in Notting Hill on Friday when he must have heard the distant sound of starter's orders. Mr Wright, a well-known betting man, bolted from his seat at five to two and galloped across the road towards William Hill, just in time to put his money on Mutadarra, the 5-2 favourite at Newmarket. However, it was Friday the 13th. Mr Wright's horse came second in a close photo-finish. The entrepreneur took it in his two-legged stride, and trotted with a smile to his chauffeur-driven car.

RADIO CHOICE

The salesman knocks again

Death of a Salesman. Radio 4. 7.45pm.

After seeing Arthur Miller's powerhouse of a play for the first time, I felt I had been put through a mangle. I experienced a similar sensation listening to John Tyndeman's terrific new production. We are told that what Miller was really representing through his story of the doomed Willy Loman was the disintegration of the American Dream. That would be an interpretation worthy of this deep-thinking dramatist. Miller himself offered a complementary statement of intent: the play was like a terror-stricken man "calling into the void for help that will never come". Unless you have already been advised of the fact, I guarantee you will not guess that the American voices of Loman and his resilient wife belong to our very own Timothy West and Rosemary Leach.

Dear Diary. Radio 4 (FM). 10.00am.

Even though spoken without scorn, Johnson's calling Boswell a "drunken dog" must have disconcerted the biographer. It is one of the alcoholic anecdotes extracted by Simon Rae from the diaries of the great, the good and the not-so-good. Scorn was certainly in the voice of the Scots poet Hugh MacDiarmid, when he drunkenly insulted the young WAAFF who asked him about Burns. In drink Mao Tse-tung was reduced to a monotonous mumble. Evelyn Waugh blamed everything but drink when he was sick for four days after a heavy intake on a train journey.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Dave Pearce 6.30 Chris Evans 6.00am Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa (Anon), incl. at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat and at 1.15 The Net 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Clive Wain, including at 4.40 Judge Dredd, plus at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat, 5.15 The Net, and at 6.30 The Nightly Mix 7.00pm Evening Session 9.00 Apache Indian 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00 Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 6.15 Pulse by Thought 7.30 Wogan 10.00 Wogan 9.15 Pulse 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Debbie Thompson 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05pm Durr 7.00 Hubert Gregg 7.20 Midweek Laycock 8.00 Big Band Special 9.00 Humphrey Lyttelton 10.00 Scottish Music Hall 10.30 The Jamnans 12.05am Digby Farnsworth 1.00 Steve Madden 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, incl. at 6.30 and 7.55 Facing 8.25 Magazine, incl. at 10.35 Euronews, 11.05 Bananas 12.00 Midday with Mark 2.05 Russell on Five, incl. at 2.35 Azzulini, and at 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 Nationwide, incl. at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News incl. at 7.20 sport 7.35 Football Legends: John Charles 8.00 Wimbledon v West Ham 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra incl. at 11.15 Financial World Tonight 12.05am The Other Side of Midnight 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy War 7.00 Simon Bates 10.00 Jonathan King 12.00 Tommy Boyd 2.00pm Anna Rubrum 4.00 Scott Chisholm and Lower Town 7.00pm Bolger 9.00 Mo'Z Dee 10.00 James White 1.00-4.00am Ian Collins

RADIO 3

5.55am Weather 6.00 On Air: Presented by Andrew McGregor. Includes Belarus (Pavle) The Song of a Great City; Beethoven (Symphony No 8 in F); 7.05 Symphony (Scriabin); Mozart (Symphony No 9 in C); 7.40 Dvořák (The Water Goblin); 8.05 Purcell Portfolio A selection of songs 8.35 Rachmaninov (Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini) 9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 5 in D); 9.19 Haydn (Piano Sonata: Sonata in G); 9.30 Stravinsky (Concerto in E flat, Dumbarton Oaks); 9.45 Adams (The Chairman Dances) 10.00 Musical Encounters. Presented by Edward Bickman. Artist of the Week: Anne Quatrecas, piano Scialotti (Sonatas in D; in B minor); 10.10 Eugene Goossens (Concortino for string octet); Aron (Ay, Santa Maria, Ave vego gratia); Bach (Partita in C minor); Roussel (Symphony No 3) 12.00 Fairfest Isle: Composer of the Week. Irish-born Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924) 1.00 BBC Lunchtime Concert, live from St John's, Smith Square, London. London Winds under Michael Collins perform Mozart (Adagio in B flat, K411); Strauss (Sonatina No 2 in E flat, Fröhliche Werkstat) 2.00 Schoof: The Song Tree 2.15 Storybox 2.25 Let's Move! 2.45 First Steps in Drama 3.00 Fairfest Isle: The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish

RADIO 4

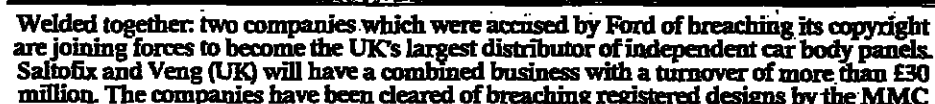
6.00am News 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today including 7.25, 8.25 Sports News 8.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 One Year On (New Series) Nigel Farrell discovers what has happened to the people and stories that made the news a year ago 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week Melvyn Bragg is joined by Arthur Miller, Gore Vidal, Amos Oz and Brenda Maddox 10.00 News: Dear Diary (FM only). See Choice (4/9) 10.00 Daily Service (LW only) 10.15 This Soap's'd late (LW only) 10.30 Women's Hour Presented by Cindy Polanco. Serial: Mrs Frampton, by Pam Gems, read by Rosemary Leach (5/9) 11.30 Money Box Live: (0171) 550 4444 12.00pm News: You and Yours with Tasneem Siddiqi 12.25 Round Britain Quiz London takes on Scotland; 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (1); 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News: P Division — Code Four One (New series) by Peter Turnbull, dramatised by Stephen Mulrine 3.00 The Afternoon Shift with Laurie Taylor 4.00 News: 4.05 Kaleidoscope Lynne Walker talks to the composer Richard Rodney Bennett and reviews Arthur Miller's book Plain Girl and a production of The Merchant Builder directed by Si Peter

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.8-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6. LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 683, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-6.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8, MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Macey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thompson

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هكذا من الأصل

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT



The National & Provincial Building Society will detail today how the £1.35 billion Abbey National will pay for it. Details will be distributed to its 1.34 million qualifying investors and borrowers today. All should receive £500 worth of Abbey National shares and savers should get an average cash payout of about £300.

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

Mr Brown said that the benefits should be passed on to ordinary shareholders. Labour's move in Parliament is likely to win some cross-party support, with the widespread unrest over the remuneration of utilities' chiefs stirring in the Conservative ranks.

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

Companies that have recently ended funding to the Conservative Party include Cookson, Glaxo Wellcome, Rank, United Biscuits, Vodafone and Whitbread.

BY OUR CITY STAFF

Sir Nigel became caretaker chairman after a boardroom shake-up earlier in the year in which Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, previously chairman and chief executive, gave up some responsibility and remained chief executive. He will retire

He said: "I am impressed by the way, despite difficulties in many relevant sectors of the retail market, the Kingfisher businesses are working to restore the pattern of growth the company has achieved over many years."

BY LINDSAY COOK
BUSINESS EDITOR

Tony Campbell, trading director, said: "Resale price maintenance of these products is a tax on people's

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No 601

- | ACROSS | DOWN |
|--|--|
| 7 Special-effect history show (3,2,7) | 1 Music-maker (8) |
| 9 Blow up (7) | 2 Underneath (5) |
| 10 Passenger; addendum (5) | 3 Protective cover (6) |
| 11 Bludgeon (4) | 4 Involve in trouble; confuse (7) |
| 12 Verdict (8) | 5 Little ball for stringing (4) |
| 15 Wetlock (8) | 6 Deterioration in use (4,3,4) |
| 17 Pellets; streaked with colour (4) | 8 Cheap, second-hand (clothes) (5-2-4) |
| 19 Bird; worker in bell (5) | 13 Breathing in (8) |
| 21 She died where a willow grows <i>astant</i> a brook (7) | 14 Move to another country (7) |
| 22 Be killed by pirate (4,3,5) | 16 Abase oneself (6) |
| | 18 Complete, entire (5) |
| | 20 Cheap; contemptible (4) |

SOLUTION TO NO 600

ACROSS: 3 Land's End 7 Awhile 8 Moment 9 Arnhem
10 Pewter 11 Keep 13 Agile 15 Clue 17 Gigolo 18 Gallic 19 Hunter
20 Gallop 21 Prestige

DOWN: 1 Swerve 2 Mishap 3 Lemming 4 Diocese 5 Eventful
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15 Coldly 16 Unison

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